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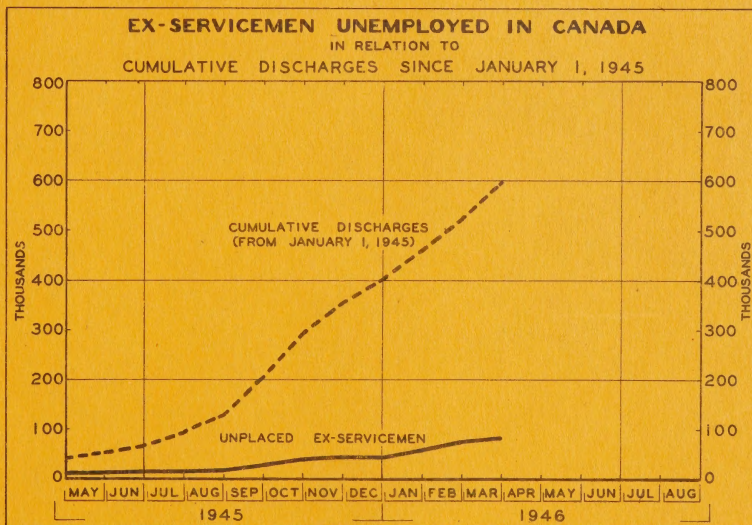
DEPT. OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

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CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

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The peak of unemployment in Canada during the reconversion period has been reached. During March unplaced applicants increased by only 3,600, indicating that a "plateau" had been reached in the trend of unemployment. At April 4, there were 266,984 unplaced applicants registered with National Employment Service. Preliminary data for April 11 indicate that unemployment dropped by about 4,000 in this week to stand at 262,840; over 90 per cent of this decline was for male unplaced applicants. It is evident, therefore, that the Canadian economy has entered the fourth phase of employment conditions during reconversion (see Section 1, Part 1, "Dominant Features of the Canadian Labour Market").

Unfilled vacancies increased steadily during March, and the first weeks of April saw a substantial jump in this rate of increase. At February 28, 1946, there were 75,354 unfilled vacancies in Canada. One month later, March 28, this figure had risen to 82,483, and by April 11 it was up to 91,908. This development heralds the increased industrial activity that is now occurring in this country.

Unplaced veterans numbered about 81,700 at the end of March, as compared with 71,000 at the end of the previous month. During March, therefore, there was an increase of about 14 per cent in the number of veterans unemployed. In the same period the proportion of the unemployed who are veterans rose from 27 to 31 per cent. The number of veterans unplaced 15 days or more was about 60,000 at the end of March as compared with 50,000 at the end of the previous month. The proportion of veterans unplaced 15 days or more, therefore, rose from 69 to 73 per cent.

Discharges of service personnel during March of this year were about 72,000. During January and February there were 60,000 and 65,000 released from the armed forces respectively. Revised forecasts suggest that discharges will number about 60,000 in April, 33,000 in May, and 20,000 in June. Thus by the end of March about 508,000 persons had been released from the armed forces since the beginning of August, 1945.

The matching of jobs and applicants is continuing as a difficult task in Canada during reconversion. Discrepancies between the types of skills and qualifications available and those needed are still wide; many of the expanding industries are characterized by comparatively low wage levels or by conditions of work that are not attractive to those seeking jobs. Especially is this true of ex-servicemen who having spent up to six years "on the go" now want only to return to their homes and no longer be shunted from job to job and area to area. Jobs in mining, logging, and construction, therefore, do not appeal to many of them. Similarly, such men tend to resist suggestions that they move some distance in order to obtain work.

A classification of Canadian labour market areas as at March 14, 1946, indicates that the unemployment situation was Acute (in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties") in five areas and Serious (corresponding to that which occurred in 1939) in ten other areas. The labour situation in Windsor changed from Acute to Serious, while in Pictou and New Glasgow the opposite change occurred.

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PART I

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Section 1:--DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

The peak of unemployment in Canada during the reconversion period has been reached, and the Canadian labour market now is approaching the fourth phase of its development since V-E Day--an effective decline in unemployment, perhaps to the point where labour demand approximates supply. During March a plateau of unemployment was reached and all signs point to the maintenance of this relative stability for the next few weeks. Stability, however, hinges chiefly upon whether industrial production will gain sufficient momentum to counter-balance the continued flow of ex-servicemen into the labour market. A gradual increase in industrial employment as seasonal activity increases and as the completion of reconversion becomes more extensive is indicated by the steady, though yet slight, rise in the number of unfilled vacancies. Further impetus was recently given to industrial activity by the settlement of two major United States strikes which have been hampering Canadian production, especially in the automobile and construction fields. As a result, the increase in unemployment during March was only about 2,600, the smallest since V-J Day. During this same month there were about 65,000 released from the armed forces.

Three distinct phases in the employment effects of reconversion have been evident up to this date. The first phase, from V-E Day to V-J Day, was marked by a small increase in male unemployment as slight lay-offs from war industry occurred. Female job seekers declined with the initial expansion of civilian industry. In general, no great change in the labour market situation took place, since industry was prepared for a long Asiatic war and demobilization and reconversion had not yet reached sufficient proportions to relieve effectively the existing labour stringency. From V-J Day to the beginning of December, the second phase in labour market developments, the situation was reversed from one of labour stringency to one of labour surplus. Widespread lay-offs from war industry were offset to some extent by the expansion of "labour starved" civilian industries and by the seasonal rise in employment. However, the cumulative effect of demobilization was enough to push unemployment far above the V-J Day level, despite the "cushion" of jobs which existed during this period. As a result, male unemployment multiplied three times in approximately three months, while female applicants increased by 50 per cent in the same interval. In this period unemployment mounted on the average by 6,000 per week.

The third phase in the development of the post-war labour market situation started with the new year. The month of December, with its holiday season,

marks the transition from the second to the third phase. During this Christmas season, there had been a temporary lull in labour market activity as many workers postponed job hunting and as many others obtained temporary jobs in Christmas trade. In January, however, the full force of demobilization fell upon a labour market which was then in the doldrums of seasonal inactivity. Although lay-offs from war industry had virtually ceased, there was now no "cushion" of jobs to absorb the incoming workers from the armed forces. On top of this, many temporary releases were occurring because of the material shortages which were resulting from numerous American strikes. Reconverting industry was being further hampered by the lack of key skilled workers. At this stage, therefore, the increase in unemployment accelerated to 9,000 per week. By the end of February, however, a marked slackening in this rate of increases had occurred and there are strong indications that the fourth phase has been reached.

It is becoming more and more apparent that many of the present job seekers need additional training. The weeding-out process, by which employers replaced the less efficient workers as soon as the expanding supply of labour permitted, has left stranded numerous workers whose skills are inadequate for the jobs that are and will be available. The specialized and somewhat sketchy training which many of them received in various war industries did not provide the thorough grounding which is needed under the competitive conditions of the peace-time labour market. Among the large surpluses in the construction, metalworking and miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled occupations, the proportion of fully qualified workers is low. Similarly, in the clerical field, many applicants lack the full training specified by employers. At the same time, various industries are being held up for lack of key skilled workers, e.g., textiles and construction. If new skills can be developed and if the current job seekers can be directed into expanding industries, then frictional unemployment will be eased and the progress of reconversion speeded. Otherwise, many of the current unemployed will tend to become unemployable. This problem is being solved to some extent by the programs of the Canadian Vocational Training Branch of the Department of Labour in co-operation with various provincial governments. The effectiveness of this program, however, in channelling workers into less crowded fields, is being hampered by the comparatively low wage rates or by the unfavourable work conditions which generally prevail in them.

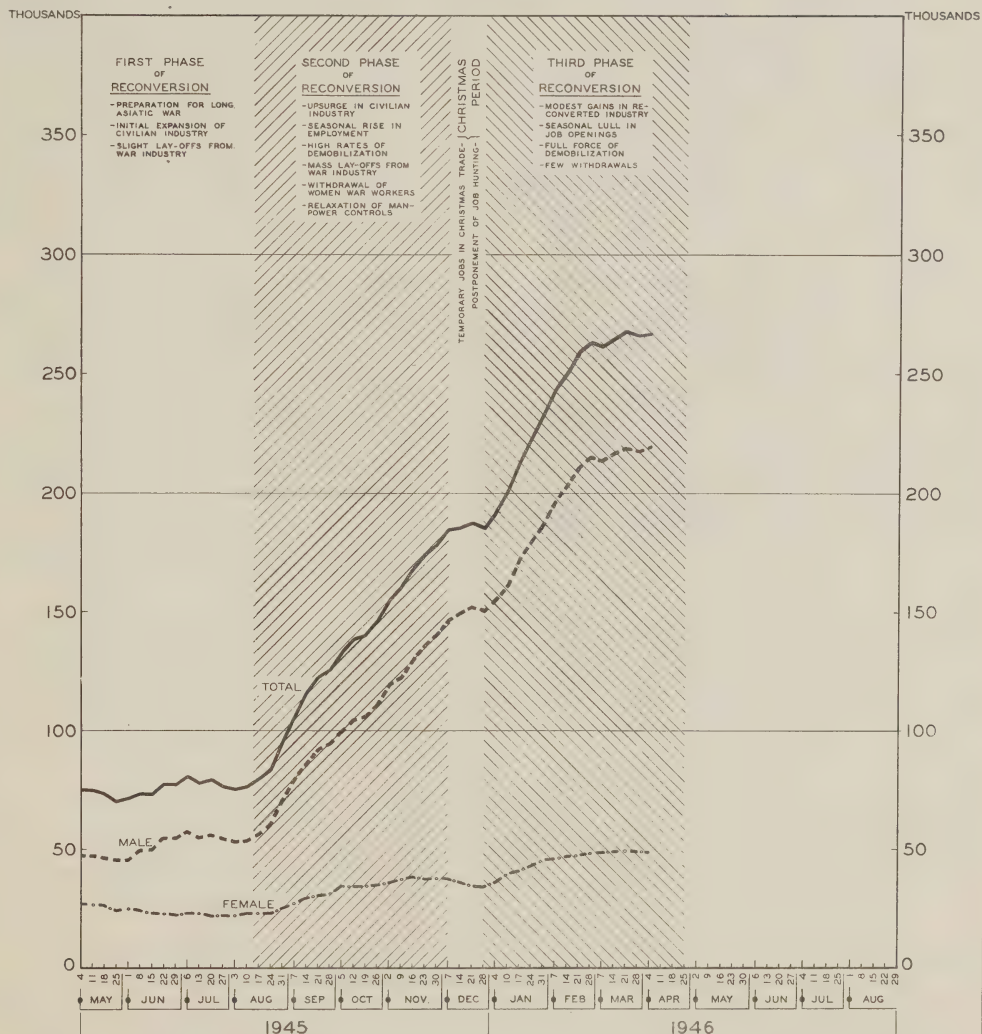
Unemployment

At March 28, 1946, unemployment in Canada stood at 266,027, a decline of about 1,600 from the previous week and an increase of about 2,600 from February 28. It is likely that the labour market situation will grow brighter henceforth. One difficulty, however, is that the civilian industries which are most directly in need of workers—textiles, rubber, service and trade—require female workers rather than male. Almost as many vacancies are available for women as for men, although male applicants outnumber female by five to one. Unemployment is predominantly male, as is clearly evident in the accompanying chart. Female unemployment has advanced only slightly above the pre-V-E Day level.

The proportion of unreferred applicants (workers registered as unplaced who have not yet been referred to jobs) to all unplaced applicants has not changed in the first two weeks of March. This indicates the continued sluggishness of the labour market. As at March 14, unreferred applicants were 96 per cent of

UNEMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

AS MEASURED BY
UNPLACED APPLICANTS



the unemployed, an increase of only 0.3 per cent over the previous month.

Table I—Unplaced and Unreferred Applicants in Canada at Selected Dates

(Source: Form UIC 757-759)

Date	Unplaced Applicants (1)	Unreferred Applicants (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
June 1, 1945.....	69,906	40,838	58.4
Aug. 31 ".....	96,327	63,044	65.4
Sept. 28 ".....	128,667	99,665	77.5
Dec. 28 ".....	185,954	175,885	94.5
Jan. 31, 1946.....	233,703	222,669	95.3
Feb. 28 ".....	263,425	252,835	96.0
Mar. 14 ".....	266,548	254,962	96.0

Workers signing the live unemployment register during the last week of January totalled 145,955, as compared with 112,586 in December. These workers are claiming the protection of unemployment insurance, but not all of them will qualify. Male live claims increased more than female—from 91,138 to 116,504, as compared with the female rise from 22,348 to 28,448. The advance in female live claims, however, was the sharpest recorded in recent months any may be accounted for by the progressive replacement of women by returned veterans. At the end of January, 62 per cent of all the unemployed were seeking unemployment insurance benefits. This represents a gain of only one point over the percentage of the previous month. The 21,698 veterans receiving out-of-work benefits in January would further raise by 10 per cent the proportion of the unemployed protected by some form of benefits.

Live claims registered at the end of February numbered 161,997, made up of 130,061 male and 31,936 female. Thus 61 per cent of the unemployed were seeking unemployment insurance benefits at February 28. Veterans receiving out-of-work benefits numbered 52,817 at the same date, forming 12 per cent of the unemployed and therefore raising the proportion of those protected by some form of benefit.

Unemployment insurance benefits paid out in January totalled \$4,493,251. It is expected that benefits paid in March will amount to more than \$6,000,000 when, for the first time since the fund was established, payments will exceed revenues. At the end of February the unemployment insurance fund showed a balance of \$315,000,000.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics' survey of the labour force during November, 1945, estimated it at 4,531,000. At November 15 there were about 169,000 workers unemployed, the incidence of unemployment in the labour force being 3.7 per cent. Since then the labour force has undoubtedly been swollen by the entry of ex-servicemen, but it is unlikely that this has affected the percentage of unemployment to any appreciable extent. At March 14, unplaced applicants numbered 266,548—thus the proportion of unemployment had risen 2.2 per cent in the intervening four months. A comparison of the incidence of unemployment in Canada at these two dates is shown by regions in the following table.

Table II—Unemployment as a Percentage of the Labour Force, by Regions

(Source: November, 1945, Labour Force Survey, D.B.S.; March 14, 1946, Labour Demand and Supply, Research and Statistics Branch)

Region	Labour Force	Unplaced Applicants Nov. 15/45	Percentage Unemployed	Unplaced Applicants Mar. 14/46	Percentage Unemployed
Maritimes.....	386,000	12,000	3.1	26,000	6.7
Quebec.....	1,310,000	60,000	4.6	85,000	6.5
Ontario.....	1,554,000	54,000	3.6	78,000	5.0
Prairies.....	924,000	24,000	2.6	44,000	4.8
Pacific.....	357,000	19,000	5.3	54,000	9.5
Canada.....	4,531,000	169,000	3.7	267,000	5.9

The regional burden of unemployment varies directly with the degree to which abnormal industrial expansion took place during the war and the extent to which demobilization is concentrating in the area. Relatively, unemployment is highest in the Pacific, Maritimes and Quebec regions. In the Pacific region, which before the war had not been highly industrialized, large expansion in the aircraft and shipbuilding industries took place. The result was that the collapse of war industry left a surplus of workers who could not be absorbed by other industries. In addition, the weight of demobilization was most pronounced in this region. The Maritimes also experienced a tremendous war boom which has left in its wake thousands of displaced workers, accustomed to high rates of pay, in a region never economically prosperous before the war, and which lacks the diversification necessary to absorb this surplus. War industry expansion out of all proportion to former industrialization also accounts for the high ratio of postwar unemployment in Quebec. In the Prairie provinces, however, most wartime growth was in industries, such as food, which were normal to the peacetime economy, and the end of the war merely meant the diversion of goods from military to civilian channels. Although the seasonal influence is greatly affecting employment at present, foreign demand should keep Prairie incomes high and unemployment low when the seasonal upsurge begins. Ontario typifies the Dominion average, having the greatest weight. This region was highly industrialized before the war and the post-war expansion of restricted civilian industries has resulted in the absorption of many displaced war workers and returning veterans. With the settlement of the United States steel and General Motors strikes, shortages of parts in the Ontario industry will be alleviated. The chief problem in this province now is one of dislocated skills.

The regional distribution of the unemployed by occupational groups is shown in Table III. In all provinces except British Columbia roughly 40 per cent of all surplus workers are in the unskilled class, about 35 per cent are skilled or semi-skilled, and the rest are distributed between the clerical, sales, service, and professional and managerial worker groups. In British Columbia, however, skilled and semi-skilled workers are predominant among the unemployed. Unemployed men weight the total occupational breakdown, as the pattern for women differs from it. In all regions approximately half the female applicants are concentrated in the clerical, service, sales, and professional and managerial groups; next largest group is the unskilled while the fewest women are invariably found in the skilled and semi-skilled group.

Table III—Regional Distribution of the Unemployed, by Occupational Groups

(Source: Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch,
Department of Labour)

Region and Classification	May 4, 1945	Aug. 31, 1945	Jan. 31, 1946	Feb. 28, 1946	Mar. 14, 1946
Canada.....	75,279	96,327	233,703	263,425	266,548
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service.....	25,595	27,380	57,352	62,423	64,196
Skilled and semi-skilled.....	20,582	30,223	30,256	90,262	93,606
Unskilled (a).....	29,102	38,724	96,095	110,740	108,746
Maritimes.....	3,509	6,281	19,018	22,326	25,485
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service.....	1,848	1,978	4,149	4,490	5,040
Skilled and semi-skilled.....	1,181	1,934	7,455	8,905	10,037
Unskilled (a).....	2,480	2,369	7,414	8,931	10,408
Quebec.....	30,505	37,885	78,338	84,932	85,328
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service.....	8,156	9,976	17,041	18,576	18,551
Skilled and semi-skilled.....	9,159	12,645	27,459	29,995	30,118
Unskilled (a).....	13,190	15,264	33,838	36,361	36,659
Ontario.....	16,858	26,436	71,134	81,847	77,899
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service.....	6,437	6,890	16,835	17,377	18,611
Skilled and semi-skilled.....	4,172	7,606	23,019	25,652	26,183
Unskilled (a).....	6,199	11,940	31,280	38,318	33,105
Prairies.....	12,891	12,998	35,107	41,205	43,508
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service.....	5,361	4,873	11,183	12,726	13,092
Skilled and semi-skilled.....	3,303	3,368	10,973	13,108	14,025
Unskilled (a).....	4,222	4,757	12,951	15,371	16,391
Pacific.....	9,516	12,727	30,106	33,115	34,328
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service.....	3,743	5,663	8,144	8,754	9,102
Skilled and semi-skilled.....	2,562	4,670	11,370	12,602	13,243
Unskilled (a).....	3,211	4,394	10,592	11,759	11,983

(a) Includes farm hands and fishermen.

Industrial Employment

Total industrial employment declined 0.7 per cent during January, although manufacturing rose contra-seasonally by 1.3 per cent. The durable goods sector registered the greatest advance (1.5 per cent), under the stimulus of continued re-tooling and renewed production in the automobile industry. The non-durable goods division increased by 1.3 per cent, demand for civilian goods constituting an upward pressure behind employment in these industries, offsetting the normal seasonal downward movement. Mining and service also expanded, as qualified workers became available. Transportation and construction receded under the

influence of seasonal inactivity. Employment in trade declined markedly as compared with the previous month, the post-Christmas slump accounting for the drop of 7.8 per cent.

At the beginning of February, reported employment in the nine leading industries of Canada stood at 1,771,956—slightly higher than at the same period in 1942. The labour force was greater by over 500,000 workers than in 1939.

Ontario was the only province where employment in all industries registered a definite gain—the return of the Ford workers being a major factor behind the increase. Employment in the Prairie provinces continued to fall, as this region is very sensitive to seasonal influences, with widely developed food industries reflecting the low in agricultural activity. Employment in Quebec slumped as logging operations declined. In British Columbia, the drop in employment was attributable to further declines in shipbuilding and to general seasonal losses.

Although the recent settlement of the United States steel and General Motors strikes will boost Canadian employment in the durable goods industries, the American coal strike, scheduled for April, would seriously curtail industry, particularly in Ontario, if it continues for long. A marked expansion should occur in the construction industry as soon as weather permits and shortages of materials are overcome.

The agricultural employment situation is causing some anxiety as an acute shortage of workers is expected. One solution proposed is "on-the-job" agricultural training for veterans.

Unfilled Vacancies

The number of vacant jobs reported to National Employment offices has shown slight improvements weekly since the end of February. Increased seasonal activity plus the far-reaching effects of the American steel strike settlements, is largely responsible for the upward movement. However, despite the more favourable trend in vacancies, there are still more than three applicants listed for each of the 79,954 jobs available at March 21.

The distribution of vacancies to applicants is in far better balance for women workers than for men. The ratio of female vacancies to applicants is 2 to 3, as compared with the male ratio of 1 to 5.

A further difficulty is that of dovetailing the types of labour available into the jobs being offered. The greater part of vacancies are for skilled and semi-skilled, followed by unskilled workers (being predominantly for men in both groups). The numerous openings in the service and clerical fields are largely for women workers. Loggers, construction workers, sales and clerical workers, metal workers, mechanics, and miners are in greatest demand in the male labour field. Requirements for agricultural workers are mounting as the spring season draws near. Low rates of pay or lack of proper qualifications are the chief factors hindering rapid placements in these fields.

Table IV—Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants
by Occupations as at March 14, 1946

(Source: Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch,
Department of Labour)

Occupational Group	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Canada	44,983	32,742	77,725	217,959	48,589	266,548
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service ..	6,908	15,978	22,886	39,799	24,397	64,196
Skilled and semi-skilled ..	25,436	9,281	34,717	84,205	9,401	93,606
Unskilled (a)	12,639	7,433	20,122	93,955	14,791	108,746

(a) Includes farm hands and fishermen.

Regional differences between vacancies and applicants also exist. The distribution of vacancies and applicants is balanced for Quebec and the Prairies. In Ontario, however, 38 per cent of all vacancies are located, and only 28 per cent of all applicants. The situation is reversed in the Maritimes and British Columbia—the proportion of job vacancies is substantially lower than the concentration of the unemployed. The patterns of regional labour demand distribution for males and females do not show any marked difference. The trend of female vacancies seems rather to be an exaggeration of the total trend—a higher portion is concentrated in Ontario, and lower proportion in the Prairie and Pacific regions.

Table V—Regional Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants as at March 14, 1946

(Source: Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch,
Department of Labour)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies		Unplaced Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Maritime	14,431	5.5	26,788	10.0
Quebec	25,200	36.5	86,244	32.2
Ontario	30,913	38.7	76,998	28.8
Prairie	11,912	14.9	43,821	16.4
Pacific	7,498	9.4	33,780	12.6
Canada	79,954	100.0	267,631	100.0

Man-hours and Earnings

The seasonal low in employment is reflected in the sharp drop of aggregate payrolls at January 1, 1946. However, while current aggregate payrolls are below the level of January 1, 1943, per capita weekly earnings declined only to \$30.02, and are still above the January 1, 1944, level. The downward trend in employment seriously affected the number of hours worked and hourly earnings. The decline in hours worked was further influenced by the proximity of both Christmas and New Year's holidays to a weekend. Workers thus tended to stretch the holidays, and a greater loss of working time resulted. While weekly hours declined to 38.2 as a result of the seasonal factor, hourly earnings gained four-fifths of a cent over the previous month. This was because greatest employment reductions occurred in the lower paid non-durable goods categories, such as the meat packing and dairy

industries, while re-employment of automobile workers boosted hourly earnings in the higher-paid durable goods industries. Although weekly hours worked at January 1 were considerably below those of the previous month (44.8), they were only slightly below the 59.6 hours worked reported at January 1, 1945. Hourly earning, despite the slight gain registered over December, are 2.2 cents lower than they were a year ago.

Strikes and Lockouts

The labour picture was relatively quiet during February, and most of the 18 disputes occurring concerned wages and hours, thereby involving straightforward bargaining procedure. The number of strikes was six more than the January total, but man-working days lost declined from 20,593 to 12,406. There were 3,532 workers involved, an increase of 597.

Most strikes during the month were of short duration, and at March 16 only two strikes had been in existence over three weeks. One of these was the Winnipeg compositors' dispute, which started last November.

The hosiery mill workers' strike at Sherbrooke accounted for the largest loss of man-working days—4,800. The dispute involving the largest number of men was that of the 926 electrical apparatus workers at Brockville and Montreal.

The present labour situation approximates that of February a year ago, and is considerably better than it was in the corresponding periods of 1942, 1943, and 1944. The future outlook in the labour relations field points to stability, although some unrest is indicated in the textiles field. Government control of meat-packing plants ended March 18, having been in operation since October 11, 1945.

Industrial Production

Industrial production slackened slightly at the beginning of January, the index standing at 193.9 as compared with 194.5 for the previous month. The standing a year ago was 228.8. Chief losses were in manufacturing operations, shortages of materials, added to seasonal contraction, offsetting the upward pressure of consumer demand. Thus, although production of pig iron and steel expanded, the iron and steel industry receded 27.3 points during the month as reconversion had not yet been completed.

Rebuilding stocks of foreign products was the chief difficulty in filling the raw materials gap. United States work stoppage seriously curtailed Canadian production through lack of vital parts. The recent settlement of both the steel strike and the General Motors' strike will stimulate Canadian production, especially in Oshawa, Windsor and Hamilton, although the settlement involves an upward pressure on prices and wages which will be felt here. At the beginning of March, the U.S. steel output was back to about 60 per cent of former production. The expected coal strike and copper and lead shortages will provide further obstacles to Canadian industry through United States labour troubles, unless averted.

Exports at the beginning of January were far below the level of a year ago—227.9 as compared with 381.3. The disappearance of war materials exports largely accounts for this. Although grain and livestock marketings dropped during January, 1945, exports of these products increased in the same period. In textiles, newsprint, tobacco, and construction, all industries restricted during the war, the upward postwar trend continued.

DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

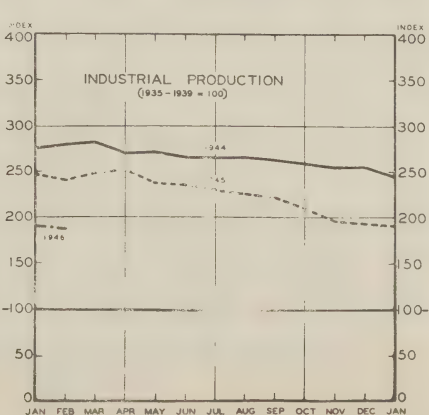
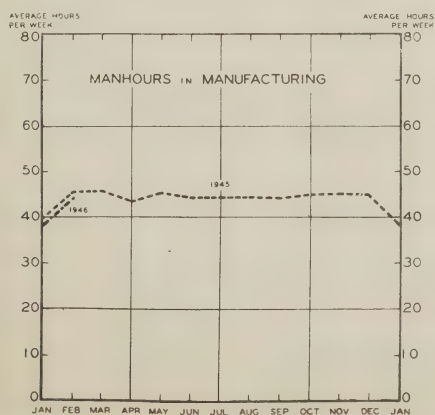
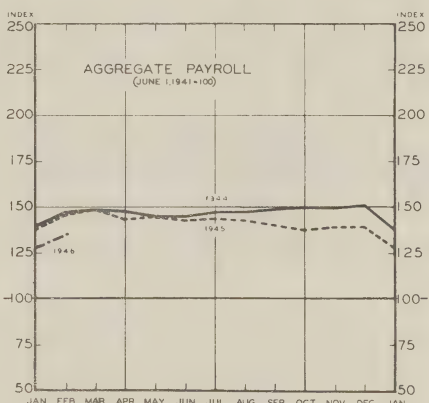
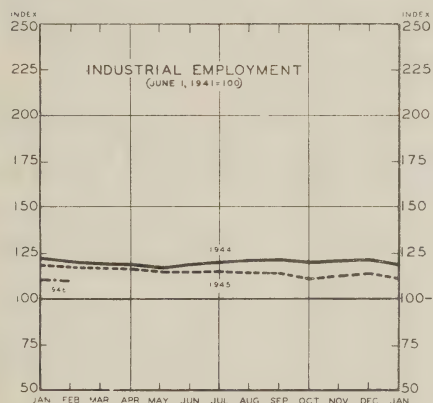
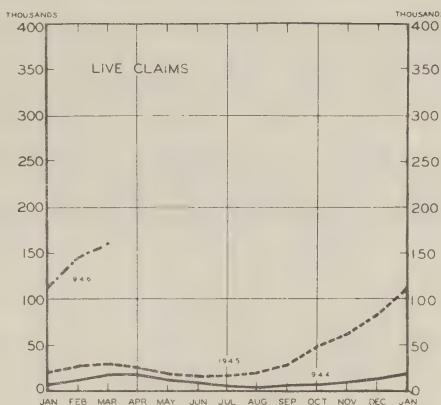
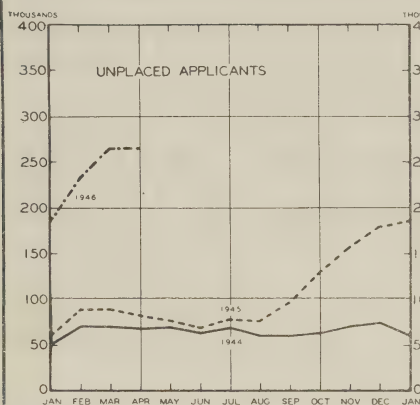


Table VI —Dominant Features of the Canadian Labour Market

Note.—All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Features	Feb. 1939	Feb. 1940	Feb. 1941	Feb. 1942	Feb. 1943	Feb. 1944	Feb. 1945	Jan. 1946	Feb. 1946
Employment — (a)									
Index (Av.1926 = 100).....	106.5	114.4	134.0	163.2	178.3	180.4	176.5	166.6	165.4
(June 1, 1941 = 100)	—	—	—	107.9	117.9	119.3	117.0	110.4	109.6
Number(thousands).....	1,144	1,229	1,439	1,753	1,916	1,938	1,896	1,788	1,772
Unemployment — (b)									
Total (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	72	87	186	234
Male (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	44	54	152	188
Female (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	28	33	34	46
Live Claims									
Total (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	12	27	113	146
Male (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	10	20	91	117
Female (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	22	29
Earnings — (a)									
Aggregate payroll (June 1, 1941 = 100)	—	—	—	117.9	138.3	146.9	145.6	128.1	135.3
Per capita weekly earnings	—	—	—	27.73	30.00	31.76	32.18	30.09	32.03
Cost of living — (c)									
(Av.1935-39 = 100)	—	103.8	108.2	115.7	116.9	118.9	118.6	119.9	119.9
Man-hours and hourly earnings — (a)									
Average hours per week.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	45.4	38.1	44.0
Average hourly earnings.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	70.1	67.9	68.1
Strikes and lockouts — (b)									
Number.....	8	13	9	21	31	20	17	12	18
Workers involved (thousands).....	3	3	2	3	5	9	5	3	4
Man-working days lost (thousands).....	24	13	7	24	24	40	7	21	12
Industrial Production — (d)									
(Av.1935-39 = 100)	97.5	116.5	155.6	216.3	267.8	279.5	240.3	193.9	188.2

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

Section 2: — OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Placement activity by National Employment Service during February was little changed from that of the previous month, although employment opportunities declined, before starting to rise again in March. The employment situation for women, however, grew brighter, and both labour requirements and placements of females rose above the December level. The work of National Employment Service was supplemented by the increased numbers of workers who are obtaining employment through their own efforts, without recourse to the local offices. Separations during February fell below the January level, a deviation from the normal seasonal trend. A heavy work load has been placed on National Employment Service by the rapid increase in unemployment insurance claims filed, and the resulting rise in the number of benefits paid.

Vacancies Notified

An employer seeking additional labour is required to notify National Employment Service. Table I shows the average weekly numbers of vacancies reported in this way, since January, 1945.

Table I—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified
from January, 1945 to February, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Month	Male	Female	Total
January, 1945.....	29,027	15,717	44,744
February ".....	28,259	15,871	44,130
March ".....	31,417	17,171	48,588
April ".....	39,460	18,073	57,533
May ".....	31,413	13,814	45,227
June ".....	33,689	12,858	46,547
July ".....	33,963	10,774	44,737
August ".....	35,985	12,378	48,363
September ".....	38,984	12,246	51,230
October ".....	36,232	10,585	46,817
November ".....	30,913	10,103	41,016
December ".....	19,882	7,408	27,290
January, 1946.....	18,996	9,583	28,579
February ".....	17,332	9,142	26,474

The year 1945 failed to conform to any normal pattern as far as the number of jobs appearing on the labour market was concerned, because of the great influence of the war's end and reconversion. A normal pattern would show a slight decline from the early part of the year to the end of February, followed by a gradual rise to a peak in September and October. In the latter part of the year, there would normally be a fairly sharp drop. As it was, the 1945 peak was actually reached in April. Subsequently, there was a decline until July, followed by a secondary peak in September, and then a sharp drop extending into 1946 and reaching an all-time low in February of this year. During 1945, therefore, there was more an "end of the war" pattern to job openings than a normal seasonal trend. Although the consequent changes in economic activity were basic to this change, the relaxation of manpower controls was also a significant factor. Especially was this true of Quebec, where provincial employment agencies competed with the National Employment Service. During February, 1946, vacancies notified amounted to only 60 per cent of the number reported in the same month of 1945.

Applicants Registered for Employment

The number of applicants registering with National Employment Service indicates the number of workers available to the labour market, insofar as these workers are using the Service.

Many now registered at local offices lack specialized and required training, and are difficult to place. At the end of February about 40 per cent of all such applicants were classified as unskilled. Even in the skilled and semi-skilled group there is a large surplus of metalworkers who mastered a routine skill in war industry, but who are not proficient generally in the trade. Placement of this type of worker is limited by the small number of civilian jobs open requiring the skills these workers possess. In many cases a considerable degree of down-grading in wages is necessary. Employers are requesting a better-qualified and more experienced type of worker, and the matching of available applicants with available jobs is becoming more and more difficult.

Table II gives a comparison of the number of applicants registering during February, 1946, with other selected months.

Table II—Weekly Average of Applicants Registered for
Selected Months, by Province

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Province	February, 1945	July, 1945	September, 1945	January, 1946	February, 1946
Canada.....	43,592	43,015	59,178	41,669	39,582
Prince Edward Island.....	153	149	177	231	233
Nova Scotia.....	1,400	1,569	1,663	1,613	1,620
New Brunswick.....	1,347	1,319	1,502	1,272	1,204
Quebec.....	13,601	12,773	18,674	11,252	10,908
Ontario.....	16,489	15,501	23,220	14,875	14,714
Manitoba.....	2,140	2,257	2,676	2,804	2,317
Saskatchewan.....	1,292	1,617	1,875	1,605	1,538
Alberta.....	1,907	2,394	2,286	2,282	2,207
British Columbia.....	5,263	5,436	7,105	5,735	4,841

Figures for applicants registering in the 12 months ending February, 1946 indicate a reversal in the trend of wartime migration to the industrialized provinces of Ontario and Quebec, and into British Columbia. The number of applicants in these three provinces decreased, going from 83 per cent of the Canada total in September, 1945 to 77 per cent in February. At the same time job-seekers increased in the Maritime and Prairie provinces.

Referrals to Vacancies

An applicant registering for work through National Employment Service is referred to any suitable opening, after his qualifications, experience, and interests have been determined. Table III lists the average number of such referrals, excluding agriculture, since January, 1945.

Table III.—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Referrals,
By Sex, from January, 1945, to February, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Month	Male	Female	Total
January, 1945.....	27,458	16,555	44,013
February "	25,368	16,321	41,689
March "	24,862	15,819	40,681
April "	28,009	15,709	43,718
May "	26,804	12,155	38,959
June "	30,499	9,755	40,254
July "	28,217	7,885	36,102
August "	29,431	7,943	37,374
September "	31,653	9,303	40,956
October "	31,197	8,924	40,121
November "	28,238	8,669	36,907
December "	16,198	5,448	21,646
January, 1946.....	12,949	6,795	19,744
February "	12,924	6,725	19,649

Female referrals declined steadily during the period, but male referrals were held at a high level until December, mainly through the needs of the mining and logging industries. The Canada total for February, 1946 was less than half that of the same month in 1945. By far the largest decline between these two dates took place in Quebec. The 70 per cent drop in this province was caused largely by the decreased number of men referred to work in the logging camps.

Placements of Applicants

National Employment Service records a placement when it receives confirmation that an applicant referred to a specific job has been hired. Data on such placements for selected months of 1945 and 1946, excluding agriculture are given in Table IV.

Table IV—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Placements
for Selected Months, by Provinces

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Province	February, 1945	July, 1945	September, 1945	January, 1946	February, 1946
Canada.....	29,691	26,865	30,211	12,940	12,459
Prince Edward Island.....	98	92	92	80	62
Nova Scotia.....	1,085	1,073	1,002	468	475
New Brunswick.....	914	838	839	384	351
Quebec.....	8,598	6,887	7,456	2,100	1,914
Ontario.....	12,406	10,532	13,091	5,629	5,739
Manitoba.....	1,235	1,343	1,455	823	822
Saskatchewan.....	649	721	756	374	488
Alberta.....	1,180	1,612	1,454	897	772
British Columbia.....	3,526	3,767	4,066	2,185	1,836

Placements began to fall in Quebec--and to a lesser extent, in Ontario--after V-E Day. However, the effect of the war's end upon various civilian industries, plus normal seasonal upswing, caused placements to climb during September, particularly in Ontario. Since December there has been a decline in placements, and during February, 1946, those in Quebec were less than one-quarter of the total for the same period in 1945. During February, 1945, Quebec and Ontario accounted for 71 per cent of the Canada total placements, but this percentage shrank to 61 during February, 1946. Placements in the Prairie provinces and British Columbia, however, rose, relative to the national total--from 22 per cent to 31 per cent.

There was a fairly consistent increase during 1945 in the number of referrals resulting in placements, but it was followed by a sharp decline in the first two months of 1946. During February, 1946, out of every 100 workers referred, 63 were placed, as compared with 66 in January, and 81 in December, 1945. Many workers are at present reluctant to accept the jobs to which they have been referred, probably because of the type of work now available. In many cases, because of the increased number of applicants, more than one person is referred to a single job.

The Executive and Professional divisions of the National Employment Service have been organized in five of the larger cities of Canada. These divisions deal with applicants having professional training or who are in the higher salary brackets. Applicants classified as professional and managerial are considerably in excess of demand in all the offices except Toronto. In Toronto there were 178 female professional and managerial jobs at February 28, and only 43 applicants available.

There is a continuing surplus of sales and clerical workers coming under the professional and managerial classification, throughout the country. Many of the applicants, however, do not possess qualifications to meet the exacting demands of employers registering vacancies. Table V gives data on the Professional and Managerial offices since they were formally instituted, in September, 1945.

Table V—Vacancies Notified, Applicants Registered, and Placements by Executive and Professional Offices from September, 1945, to February, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Period	Vacancies Notified	Applicants Registered	Placements
4 weeks ended September 27, 1945.....	1,006	1,632	530
5 " " November 1, "	1,413	2,981	693
4 " " November 29, "	976	2,259	572
4 " " December 27, "	607	1,079	397
5 " " January 31, 1946.....	629	1,129	287
4 " " February 28, "	856	1,087	242

Engagements without Referral

Manpower controls have been relaxed, and workers now are able to seek and accept employment without obtaining a permit from the National Employment Service. Workers are still required, however, to report as applicants, and any engagements made without the aid of the Employment Service must be reported by either the employer or employee. Engagements thus made are classified as "engagements without referral". Table VI gives data on such engagements since April, 1945.

Table VI—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Engagements Without Referral
From April, 1945, to February, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Month	Male	Female	Total
April, 1945.....	5,238	1,297	6,535
May "	4,984	1,444	6,428
June "	5,714	5,094	10,808
July "	5,749	6,979	12,728
August "	4,967	5,738	10,705
September "	7,718	7,353	15,071
October "	10,071	6,925	16,996
November "	12,568	7,453	20,021
December "	9,101	4,223	13,324
January, 1946.....	10,933	4,452	15,385
February "	13,083	6,106	19,189

Engagements without referral rose substantially in January and February of this year, following a December slump. In fact, the figures for males only reached a higher point in February than at any time in 1945. The greatest relative increase by provinces was in British Columbia, where engagements without referral during February totalled twice the January figure, the large increase being due mainly to increased engagements in sawmills and logging camps.

Separations

As workers leave their jobs, either voluntarily or otherwise, a report of the separation must be made to the local office of the National Employment Service by the respective worker or by his employer. Table VII shows the number of average weekly non-agricultural separations since the beginning of 1945.

Table VII—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Separations
From January, 1945 to February, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Month	Male	Female	Total
January, 1945.....	19,834	11,026	30,860
February ".....	21,264	10,295	31,559
March ".....	27,298	10,142	37,440
April ".....	25,538	10,984	36,522
May ".....	21,478	10,895	32,373
June ".....	22,773	11,669	34,442
July ".....	21,622	10,533	32,572
August ".....	30,231	13,167	43,397
September ".....	31,734	14,337	46,072
October ".....	25,591	10,380	35,972
November ".....	25,655	9,809	35,464
December ".....	21,848	8,276	30,123
January, 1946.....	19,860	8,389	28,250
February ".....	19,695	7,905	27,599

During the early part of 1945, the average weekly number of separations reported to the local offices of the National Employment Service followed the normal seasonal pattern, reaching a peak in March and April and consequently declining. In the months of August and September, however, as war industry was dissolved, separations increased by 33 and 6 per cent respectively. Since October to the end of February, there has been a continual decline. This decrease in the first two months of 1946 was contra-seasonal in character and indicated both the extent to which the normal seasonal pattern had been obliterated by the effects of reconversion and the effect of the relaxation of manpower controls. The greatest declines in February as compared with the same month in 1945 were in logging, iron and steel, transportation equipment, non-ferrous metals, and the service trades. It is significant that during the same period separations increased in mining, textiles and apparel, and construction.

An analysis by province reveals that the greatest declines in separations occurred in Quebec, although the number in the Maritime provinces was also substantial. In Ontario and British Columbia, there was relatively little change.

Table VIII-Non-agricultural Vacancies Notified as Reported by the
National Employment Service, February, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Vacancies During Month	Average Weekly Vacancies		
		Number	% Change From	
			Jan. 1945	Feb. 1945
All industries	105,895	26,474	-7.4	-40.0
Logging	13,764	3,441	-33.7	-1.8
Mining	2,825	706	2.5	2.3
Manufacturing	35,319	8,830	-5.8	-54.4
Food and kindred products	3,954	988	-8.4	-56.1
Textiles, apparel, etc.	7,116	1,779	-23.4	-50.2
Lumber and finished lumber products ..	3,401	850	-10.0	-45.5
Pulp and paper products and printing ..	3,222	806	-8.9	-39.4
Chemicals and allied products	1,409	352	16.9	-71.6
Products of petroleum and coal	284	71	61.4	-44.1
Rubber goods	856	214	-26.2	-41.7
Leather and products	1,522	381	9.5	-38.5
Stone, clay and glass products	868	217	6.4	-28.4
Iron and steel and their products	3,797	949	20.6	-67.5
Non-ferrous metals	1,453	363	21.8	-57.6
Machinery	3,266	817	6.2	-38.7
Transportation equipment	2,567	642	-11.1	-71.7
Miscellaneous	1,604	401	4.7	-34.3
Construction	7,616	1,904	-1.9	-24.2
Transportation and storage	6,880	1,720	21.4	-42.8
Other public utilities	1,493	373	16.6	-7.0
Trade	11,949	2,987	0.7	-42.3
Finance and insurance	2,135	534	-14.4	-30.0
Public and professional service	6,700	1,675	1.5	-27.0
Other service	17,214	4,304	-2.3	-33.1

Table IX--Non-agricultural Referrals as Reported by the
National Employment Service, February, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Refer- rals During Month	Average Weekly Referrals		
		Number	% Change From	
			Jan. 1946	Feb. 1945
All industries	78,596	19,649	-0.5	-52.9
Logging	5,526	1,381	-16.9	-58.0
Mining	2,275	569	-14.2	-11.2
Manufacturing	26,708	6,677	2.9	-61.0
Food and kindred products	3,154	789	-10.0	-64.5
Textiles, apparel, etc.	4,683	1,171	4.0	-55.2
Lumber and finished lumber products	2,813	703	1.7	-48.5
Pulp and paper products and printing	2,525	631	1.4	-45.6
Chemicals and allied products	1,309	327	23.9	-68.5
Products of petroleum and coal	242	61	48.8	-53.4
Rubber goods	586	146	-15.1	-63.2
Leather and products	819	205	4.1	-50.8
Stone, clay and glass products	752	188	19.0	-36.1
Iron and steel and their products	3,260	815	17.3	-71.1
Non-ferrous metals	981	245	27.6	-62.1
Machinery	2,563	641	-1.7	-53.4
Transportation equipment	1,829	457	-15.4	-78.4
Miscellaneous	1,192	298	13.7	-43.5
Construction	5,885	1,471	-5.9	-36.6
Transportation and storage	5,159	1,290	4.1	-57.4
Other public utilities	963	241	3.0	-50.9
Trade	11,497	2,874	9.4	-49.4
Finance and insurance	1,602	400	-15.1	-51.8
Public and professional service	5,091	1,273	-9.4	-42.2
Other service	13,890	3,473	2.4	-43.0

Table X.—Non-agricultural Placements as Reported by the
National Employment Service, February, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Place- ments During Month	Average Weekly Placements		
		Number	% Change From	
			Jan. 1946	Feb. 1945
All industries	49,834	12,459	-3.7	-58.0
Logging	4,321	1,080	-14.7	-64.7
Mining	1,552	388	-16.4	-17.8
Manufacturing	16,535	4,134	-0.1	-66.2
Food and kindred products	1,757	439	-22.0	-71.7
Textiles, apparel, etc.	2,765	691	8.0	-66.5
Lumber and finished lumber products	1,926	482	1.9	-52.1
Pulp and paper products and printing ...	1,659	415	-0.5	-47.0
Chemicals and allied products	665	166	23.0	-76.3
Products of petroleum and coal	132	33	37.5	-62.9
Rubber goods	378	95	-27.5	-68.2
Leather and products	439	110	1.9	-65.3
Stone, clay and glass products	408	102	-1.0	-48.5
Iron and steel and their products	2,249	562	25.4	-71.8
Non-ferrous metals	574	143	20.2	-67.6
Machinery	1,544	386	-5.9	-56.2
Transportation equipment	1,292	323	-23.3	-79.3
Miscellaneous	747	187	28.1	-45.5
Construction	4,288	1,072	-7.4	-37.2
Transportation and storage	3,304	826	-11.8	-61.5
Other public utilities	594	149	3.5	-47.2
Trade	6,210	1,553	9.2	-55.9
Finance and insurance	809	202	-9.8	-60.5
Public and professional service	3,489	872	-15.5	-48.0
Other service	8,732	2,183	1.3	-46.7

Table XI —Non-agricultural Separations as Reported by the
National Employment Service, February, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Separ- ations During Month	Average Weekly Separations		
		Number	% Change From	
			Jan. 1946	Feb. 1945
All industries	110,397	27,599	-2.3	-12.6
Logging	10,665	2,666	30.1	-36.3
Mining	2,692	673	-3.6	17.5
Manufacturing	48,912	12,228	5.3	-13.0
Food and kindred products	7,894	1,974	2.0	-12.2
Textiles, apparel, etc.	7,674	1,919	28.0	7.3
Lumber and finished lumber products	3,655	914	6.0	-10.5
Pulp and paper products and printing	3,288	822	5.8	-4.2
Chemicals and allied products	2,333	583	27.6	-14.4
Products of petroleum and coal	351	88	33.3	-21.4
Rubber goods	962	241	28.2	-1.6
Leather and products	1,611	403	41.4	27.1
Stone, clay and glass products	1,018	254	-3.4	12.9
Iron and steel and their products	5,193	1,298	-13.0	-36.9
Non-ferrous metals	1,328	332	-22.8	-23.9
Machinery	4,193	1,048	22.6	-6.4
Transportation equipment	7,742	1,935	-10.6	-26.7
Miscellaneous	1,670	417	21.6	35.4
Construction	11,080	2,770	-8.2	50.2
Transportation and storage	7,653	1,913	-5.8	-11.8
Other public utilities	1,156	289	-2.4	24.0
Trade	11,747	2,937	-31.6	-11.7
Finance and insurance	1,606	402	1.0	-2.4
Public and professional service	5,821	1,455	-6.3	-19.4
Other service	9,065	2,266	-1.4	-23.5

Table XII --Non-agricultural Engagements Without Referral as Reported
by the National Employment Service, February, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Engage- ments During Month	Average Weekly Engagements		
		Number	% Change From	
			Jan. 1946	Feb. 1945
All industries	76,757	19,189	24.7	262.3
Logging	9,803	2,451	-20.7	156.6
Mining	2,148	537	40.9	431.7
Manufacturing	29,039	7,260	40.4	320.4
Food and kindred products	3,210	803	7.9	219.9
Textiles, apparel, etc.	6,205	1,551	49.9	605.0
Lumber and finished lumber products ..	3,027	757	43.6	181.4
Pulp and paper products and printing ..	2,482	620	32.8	376.9
Chemicals and allied products	1,111	278	85.3	146.0
Products of petroleum and coal	179	45	36.4	275.0
Rubber goods	695	174	28.9	987.5
Leather and products	1,380	345	70.0	604.1
Stone, clay and glass products	743	186	57.6	520.0
Iron and steel and their products	2,609	652	34.2	224.4
Non-ferrous metals	1,047	262	70.1	718.8
Machinery	2,458	614	27.1	574.7
Transportation equipment	2,789	697	53.9	162.0
Miscellaneous	1,104	276	50.0	487.2
Construction	5,174	1,293	32.6	339.8
Transportation and storage	5,472	1,368	54.2	189.2
Other public utilities	1,106	276	59.5	463.3
Trade	8,587	2,147	34.5	253.1
Finance and insurance	1,533	383	38.8	316.3
Public and professional service	5,893	1,473	28.6	261.0
Other service	8,002	2,001	18.3	239.2

PART II

DEMOBILIZATION AND RECONVERSION

Section I:--ACTIVITIES OF EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

During February 65,000 persons were released from the armed forces. A high rate of discharges is expected to continue for at least several weeks. The rapid flow of service personnel into the labour force is adding to the seasonal unemployment which usually exists at this period in the year.

Fewer ex-servicemen made application for work at National Employment Service offices in February than in the previous month. Similarly, fewer placements were effected during February. Reinstatements in civil employment, on the other hand, showed a slight increase over the previous month.

Unemployment among ex-service personnel increased sharply in February. Moreover, a greater percentage of ex-servicemen were registered in employment offices for 15 days or more. There was also a marked rise in the number of out-of-work benefits paid during the month. The occupational classification of unplaced ex-servicemen as at the end of February is substantially the same as one month earlier.

Discharges

There have been 742,000 persons discharged since the beginning of the war. At the end of the month, the effective strength of the armed forces was 255,000. This figure excludes those missing, on extended leave, seconded, and prisoners of war.

Table I shows discharges, by months, January, 1945 to February, 1946, inclusive.

Post-discharge intentions of service personnel indicate the probable effect of demobilization on the labour market. According to pre-discharge interviews over the period July 1, 1944 to December 31, 1945 approximately 25 per cent intend to seek employment, while 27 per cent expect to be re-instated, and 13 per cent have a new job available. The remainder (35 per cent) intend to take training, return to their own business or farms, or become established in farming or fishing activities.

Table I—Number Discharged from Armed Forces by Months,
January, 1945 to February, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence)

Month	Navy	Army	Air Force	Total
January, 1945.....	588	3,320	7,850	11,758
February ".....	592	3,654	8,487	12,733
March ".....	672	3,249	3,791	7,712
April ".....	772	4,312	3,236	8,320
May ".....	657	6,119	3,023	9,799
June ".....	1,679	10,602	3,040	15,321
July ".....	3,139	15,393	5,996	24,528
August ".....	6,679	22,184	8,503	37,366
September ".....	9,878	34,093	30,773	74,744
October ".....	14,931	45,994	32,042	92,967
November ".....	12,709	35,813	13,873	62,395
December ".....	12,899	22,118	8,454	43,471
January, 1946.....	10,494	40,735	8,554	59,783
February ".....	7,552	48,665	9,018	65,235

Applications For Employment in National Employment Service Offices

There was an upswing in January in the number of ex-servicemen making application for work at National Employment Service offices, but February brought a decline, 46,434 ex-servicemen registering for employment. Of those applying in February, who served in World War II only, 40 per cent had been previously employed since discharge. A person who has been previously placed in a job by an employment office, on applying again for work, is considered a revival. Table II shows the number of discharges, applications, and revivals of World War II ex-servicemen, by months, August, 1945 to February, 1946, inclusive.

Table II—Discharges from Armed Forces, Applications for Employment, Revivals
of World War II Dischargees, by Months, August, 1945 to February, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form UIC 7550B)

Month	Discharges	Total Applications	Revivals
August, 1945.....	37,366	40,290	10,616
September ".....	74,744	50,336	12,092
October ".....	92,967	70,355	18,546
November ".....	62,395	66,175	20,379
December ".....	43,471	47,149	16,133
January, 1946.....	59,783	52,028	18,563
February ".....	65,235	46,434	17,075

Under normal conditions the number of revivals would be expected to rise as the total number of ex-servicemen using the employment offices increased. However, no significant rise has been apparent in the last few months. This is because among those already employed there is little tendency to leave their jobs while employment opportunities remain at a low level. Some increase in the number of revivals may be expected with an upswing in the number of vacancies.

Placements

Some decline is apparent in placements of ex-servicemen as employment opportunities continue at a low level. In February, 16,831 ex-service personnel were placed in jobs by National Employment Service offices. In addition to those placed, more than 3,500 had been referred to specific jobs but notification as to their placement or rejection by employers had not been received. Included in the total number of placements effected are handicapped ex-servicemen. From January 15 to February 14, 242 handicapped ex-servicemen were placed in jobs through the efforts of the employment offices.

The slackening in labour requirements is reflected in a decline in the ratio of placements to applications. This decline, however, has not been as marked in the case of ex-servicemen as it has for other applicants. Veterans are being shown preference both by the National Employment Service offices and by employers. During February, for every 100 applications of ex-servicemen, 36 placements were effected, while for other than ex-servicemen only 27 placements were made for each 100 applications. Figures for each applications are shown in Table III.

Table III—Applications and Placements of Ex-Servicemen, August, 1945 to February, 1946, with Male Civilian Comparisons

(Source: Form UIC 7550B and Form UIC 751B)

Month	Average Weekly		Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent (3)	Male Civilian Equivalent of (5) Per Cent
	Total Ex-Servicemen Applications (1)	Total Ex-Servicemen Placements (2)		
August, 1945.....	9,001	5,030	55.9	58.9
September "	11,579	6,755	58.3	53.7
October "	15,625	8,506	54.4	52.8
November "	15,113	8,811	58.3	43.1
December "	10,441	5,378	56.3	34.2
January, 1946.....	11,395	4,207	36.9	25.8
February "	11,287	4,052	35.7	26.5

Reinstatements

During February 17,365 ex-servicemen were reinstated in civil employment; approximately the same number as in the previous month. According to pre-discharge interviews, about 27 per cent of service personnel expect to return to their pre-war employment. Since August 1, 1945 there have been 436,000 persons discharged from the armed forces and during this time 95,000 ex-servicemen (22 per cent) have been reported reinstated. As ex-service personnel are allowed three months in which to apply for their pre-war jobs, some are no doubt using this time to investigate other employment opportunities. Table IV shows discharges from the armed forces and reinstatements in civil employment, monthly, August, 1945 to February, 1946.

Table IV--Discharges from Armed Forces and Reinstatements in Civil Employment of Ex-Service Personnel, Monthly, August, 1945 to February, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form UIC 8212)

Date	Cumulative Discharges since Aug.1,1945 (1)	Cumulative Reinstatements since Aug. 1,1945 (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
Aug. 31, 1945.....	57,366	2,828	7.6
Sept.30 "	112,110	12,264	10.9
Oct. 31 "	205,077	30,307	14.8
Nov. 30 "	287,472	48,017	18.0
Dec. 31 "	310,945	60,320	19.4
Jan. 31, 1946.....	370,726	77,648	20.9
Feb. 28 "	435,961	95,013	21.8

Unemployed

Unemployment among ex-servicemen continues to increase. Job opportunities as reported by National Employment Service remain low, and as a result, the placement of applicants registering for employment is unable to keep pace with the rapid rate of demobilization. At the end of February 72,305 ex-service personnel were reported as unplaced applicants in employment offices, an increase of 12,444 over the end of January. Unemployed ex-service personnel at February 28 constituted 27 per cent of the total unplaced applicants at that date. Table V shows the total number of unplaced ex-servicemen and those unplaced 15 days or more, from May 31, 1945 to February 28, 1946.

At the end of February, 70 per cent of the ex-servicemen registered had been listed for over two weeks as compared with 62 per cent at January 31. The low level of vacancies in local offices, together with the limited type of job openings available and the lack of experience and skill of many applicants, is retarding the placement of workers at this time.

Of the 72,305 unplaced ex-servicemen reported at the month end, 14 per cent had served in World War I only, 23 per cent in World War II only, while the remainder had served in both wars. Of the unplaced ex-servicemen who had served in World War II, only, (60,270), 40 per cent had been previously employed since discharge.

Under the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order ex-servicemen seeking employment or waiting to enter a university or vocational school are entitled

to receive out-of-work benefits. At the end of the month, 32,800 discharges were receiving payments under this benefit, as compared with 22,000 at the end of January and approximately 8,500 at December 31, 1945.

Table V--Unplaced Ex-Servicemen and Those Unplaced 15 Days or More as at the End of the Month, May, 1945 to February, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 7550B)

Date	Unplaced Applicants (1)	Applicants Unplaced 15 Days or More (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
May 31, 1945.....	10,614	(a)	(a)
June 30 "	12,013	(a)	(a)
July 31 "	13,673	(a)	(a)
Aug. 31 "	18,956	5,599	29.5
Sept. 30 "	27,770	10,098	36.4
Oct. 31 "	40,780	13,977	34.3
Nov. 30 "	46,503	20,775	44.7
Dec. 31 "	45,974	27,887	60.7
Jan. 31, 1946.....	59,861	37,364	62.4
Feb. 28 "	72,305	50,286	69.5

(a) Figures not available.

Occupational Classification of Unplaced Ex-Service Personnel

At February 28, the occupational classification of unplaced ex-servicemen showed little change from a month earlier. Thirty-seven per cent were classified as skilled and semi-skilled workers, while 35 per cent were registered as unskilled labour. In comparison with the percentage distribution of all unplaced applicants registered in employment offices a larger percentage of discharges were registered as skilled or semi-skilled workers. At the end of February, the percentage distribution by occupational categories of all unplaced applicants showed that 34 per cent were classified as skilled or semi-skilled workers and 40 per cent were unskilled. It is significant to note, however, the steady upward trend in the percentage of ex-service personnel registered as unskilled labour. Table VI shows the percentage distribution by occupational groups of unplaced ex-service personnel as at selected dates.

Future Prospects

The effective strength of the armed forces at the end of February was 255,000. Service personnel who are on extended leave, numbering 25,000 to 30,000, are not included in this figure. Their discharge, however, will not affect the labour market appreciably as most are already employed. It is expected that discharges from the armed forces will total more than 60,000 during March and approximately 45,000 in April and 30,000 in May. According to pre-discharge interviews, about two out of three of these 135,000 discharges will probably affect the labour market either directly or indirectly. While approximately 35,000 will be seeking employment, an additional 55,000 will be expecting reinstatement or will have a new job available. While not job seekers themselves, personnel in this latter group frequently cause the displacement of other workers. The limited number of job opportunities and the continuing high rate of discharge will likely maintain the present high level of unemployment at least for several weeks. However, the normal increase in activity during the spring months will alleviate this situation considerably as the seasonal industries increase their demands for workers.

Table VI--Percentage Distribution of Occupational Categories of Unplaced Ex-Service Personnel as at Selected Dates, September, 1945; November, 1945; January, 1946; and February, 1946.

(Source: Forms UIC 757 and 759 for Ex-Service Personnel)

Occupational Group	Sept. 30, 1945	Nov. 30, 1945	Jan. 31, 1946	Feb. 28, 1946
Professional and managerial workers....	6.7	6.4	5.2	4.5
Clerical workers.....	12.0	10.5	9.8	9.7
Sales workers.....	6.8	7.0	6.1	6.2
Service workers.....	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.2
Agricultural workers.....	1.3	1.7	1.7	2.4
Fishermen.....	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.4
Skilled and semi-skilled workers.....	40.0	35.7	37.5	36.9
Food products.....	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
Textiles, clothing, etc.....	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4
Lumber and wood products.....	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9
Pulp and paper workers.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Printing.....	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.2
Leather and products.....	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
Stone, clay and glass.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Electrical.....	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.4
Mining and quarrying.....	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.4
Construction workers.....	4.3	4.6	5.4	5.4
Metalworkers.....	8.1	6.6	6.6	6.1
Miscellaneous.....	22.0	19.6	21.1	21.2
Unskilled workers.....	27.9	33.5	34.4	34.7
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Section 2:--RETAIL TRADE (a)

Nature, Location, and National Importance

Retail trade in this analysis includes all outlets engaged chiefly in the sale of merchandise at retail. This covers not only the common type of retail store, but also such other businesses as restaurants, filling stations, and lumber yards. The industry has become increasingly important. In 1941 the 137,000 stores provided work for 525,000 Canadian people, divided by status into 132,000 proprietors, 300,000 full-time workers, and 95,000 part-time workers. In 1930 there were 125,000 stores, employing around 400,000 persons.

By 1945, the number of full-time employees had risen to 325,000, who received approximately \$400,000,000 in salaries and wages. Sales in 1945 are estimated to have been four and a half billion-dollars.

The structure of the industry has undergone many changes in comparatively recent years. The long established system of merchandising—the distribution flow from manufacturer to wholesaler to retailer—has been breaking down. The functions of the wholesaler have been partially usurped both by the large-scale manufacturer and the bigger retail stores. Possibly the most interesting external developments have been the growth of departmental and chain-stores and of mail-order houses. Among the more important factors combining to effect these changes have been the steady growth of Canada's population, the progressive urbanization of this population, and the increasing consumer demand for services and specialized stores.

The following table indicates that the industry is fairly well distributed according to population and geographical divisions. Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver, however, are the centres from which most of the nation-wide department and chain-stores have spread.

(a) In the following analysis, retail trade is defined to include restaurants.

Table I—Geographical Distribution of Retail Stores and Sales, 1941

(Source: Census of Merchandising and Services, 1941.)

Region	Stores		Sales	
	Number	Per Cent of Canada Total	Dollar Value	Per Cent of Canada Total
Maritimes	12,641	9.2	282,812,300	8.2
Quebec	39,712	28.9	818,671,100	23.8
Ontario	47,055	34.3	1,406,976,700	41.0
Prairies	26,529	19.3	618,790,600	18.0
B.C., Yukon, N.W.T.	11,394	8.3	309,572,600	9.0
Canada Total	137,331	100.0	3,440,901,700	100.0

Employment

Employment in retail trade reflects the seasonal factor to a greater extent than in any other industry. A study of the annual trend of employment reveals a marked similarity from year to year. The outstanding feature, as indicated on the accompanying chart, is the tremendous increase in the fall, which reaches its peak at Christmas. During this period employment jumps as much as 40,000. Beginning in January, there is a sharp drop until the spring upswing occurs. This increase, however, is not nearly as large as that of the Christmas season.

During 1945 the number of full-time wage earners was higher than ever before, reaching about 370,000. Annual employment increased by 70,000 during the war (1939-45), and at V-J Day employment was slightly under 320,000. The 50,000 increase between V-J Day and the end of the year was spread fairly evenly. Part-time workers form an important segment of the labour force, but no record of their numbers is available for after 1941, when the total was 95,561.

Latest figures show that the total number of workers dropped 37,000 from January 1 to February 1. This drop is normal for the time of year, as activity does not usually increase until late in March. At March 1, employment offices had orders for only 4,400 new workers, but at present more than half of all jobs are being filled without reference to the National Employment Service. An early spring could move the employment uptrend ahead a month or so.

Employment of Women

Retail trade is an industry offering many employment opportunities for women. In part this is because women can be employed at lower wage rates men, but the nature of the work is also a factor. Women can sell many types of merchandise easier than can men.

From 1931 to 1941, the number of female employees in retail trade increased 49 per cent, while male employment increased 14 per cent in the same period. This disproportionate increase of female workers was no doubt partially due to the wartime conditions in the latter part of this period, but the long-term trend is also towards a higher percentage of female workers.

Table II--Employment of Women in Retail Trade

(Sources: Census of Merchandising and Services, Employment and Payrolls Statistics Br., D.B.S.)

Date	Total Full-Time Employees	Percentage Women
October, 1942	291,626	51.2
" 1943	295,602	55.7
" 1944	310,418	56.3
" 1945	329,570	53.8

Salaries and Wages

Earnings in retail trade followed the general upward trend of those in all industries during the war, and reached their peak in August, 1945. Average weekly earnings increased from \$21.04 in January, 1942 to \$24.60 in January, 1946, a rise of 16.9 per cent. The high proportion of women in the industry is an important factor in making these average earnings lower than in most other industries.

The nation-wide average of yearly salaries and wages for full-time employees in 1941 was \$974, while the corresponding figure for part-time employees was \$262. Considerable variation is shown between regions. British Columbia, with \$1,106 and \$328 for full-time and part-time work respectively, had the highest average. Prince Edward Island workers, with \$752 and \$209, received the smallest amounts.

When computed by major kinds of businesses, average yearly salaries and wages in 1941 were highest in the furniture-household-radio group at \$1,293 and \$339 for full-time and part-time employees. Restaurants paid the lowest wages, employees in these businesses receiving only \$643 for full-time work and \$232 for part-time.

Forms of Organization

Table III reveals interesting facts about business done by type of store in 1941. An important feature of the industry is the amount of sales made by corporations, which includes department and chain-stores, in relation to number of stores operated. With only 8 per cent of the stores, corporations made 40 per cent on the sales and employed 50 per cent of the wage-earners, while individual proprietors, with 83 per cent of the stores, accounted for 46 per cent of the total sales and employed 40 per cent of the full-time workers.

Table III—Stores, Sales, Employment and Wages, by Type of Ownership, 1941

(Source: Census of Merchandising and Services, 1941)

Type of Ownership	Stores		Sales		Full Time Employees			
	Number	% of Total	Amount	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Salaries & Wages	
							Amount	% of Total
Individual								
Proprietorships	113,627	82.7	1,589,762,300	46.2	120,605	40.6	96,022,400	33.2
Partnerships	10,562	7.7	318,807,900	9.3	25,235	8.5	21,298,100	7.4
Corporations	12,051	8.8	1,400,769,200	40.7	147,211	49.5	167,547,100	57.8
Co-operative Associations	445	0.3	19,839,000	0.6	1,961	0.7	1,369,000	0.5
Other	646	0.5	111,723,300	3.2	2,035	0.7	3,142,900	1.1
Total all stores	137,331	100.0	3,440,901,700	100.0	297,047	100.0	289,379,300	100.0

Retail Sales

The long-term upward trend of retail sales was greatly accelerated during the war years. Estimated sales in 1939 were slightly over two and one-half billion dollars. In 1945, preliminary estimates indicate the comparative total was about four and one-half billions.

Statistics for the volume of trade in the last few months show that this year's Christmas activity brought more dollars into the retailers' cash registers than ever before. In December, 1945, the volume of retail trade was 8 per cent above that for the same month in 1944. Sales in January continued high because of the demands of ex-servicemen and the gradual return of items previously scarce to the market. When broken down by type of store, these sales reveal some notable gains over January, 1945. Furniture sales were up 50 per cent, radio and electrical sales increased 48 per cent, and hardware stores experienced a 33 per cent rise.

Most of the products sold by these three categories can be classed as consumer durables.

Table IV—Distribution of Sales by Economic Region, 1941

(Source: Census of Merchandising and Services, 1941)

Region	Sales	Per Cent of Total	Per Cent Change 1930 to 1941
Canada	3,440,901,700	100.00	+24.9
Maritimes	282,812,300	8.22	+43.1
Quebec	818,671,100	23.79	+25.7
Ontario	1,406,976,700	40.89	+27.9
Prairies	618,790,600	17.98	+11.5
B.C., Yukon, N.W.T.	313,651,000	9.12	+24.6

Working Conditions

Conditions of work in retail stores are usually comparatively pleasant. The place of work is well-lighted and ventilated; the work is clean; and there are few job hazards. The number of hours worked per week is not exceptionally large and the work is not heavy. One unpopular feature is the necessity for standing long periods at a time. To many people, meeting the public is an exhilarating feature, which does much to offset any such minor objections.

Department store work has some attractions not found in the smaller store. Most of the modern stores provide comfortable rest-rooms, low-priced cafeterias and medical attention. Some stores have additional features such as library facilities, credit unions, and organized social and athletic activities. Largely because of these reasons, most stores have little difficulty in obtaining the help they require.

Occupations

(1) Sales clerks - The majority of employees in retail trade can be classified as sales clerks, whose duties are well-known. In general, applicants for this type of work should have a pleasing personality, self-confidence and poise, ability to meet the public, and a business-like manner. Although no formal education is required, high school graduates are generally preferred. Experience is not usually necessary and some stores conduct training courses for new employees. As a rule, sales persons do not advance rapidly, but promotion to manager, merchandiser, or executive is possible in the larger stores.

Wage rates are low compared with other occupations, but the work itself is attractive to many people as the environment must be clean and pleasant in order to attract the public.

(2) Proprietors - Proprietors, numbering 132,000 in 1941, form the second largest homogeneous group of people engaged in retail trade. The attributes that a retailer should possess have been outlined as follows: "Retailing is an art that demands a combination of qualities, any one of which might be sufficient for some other single occupation..... There must be in you a little of the artist, the banker, the salesman, the bookkeeper, the diplomat, the mechanic, the clairvoyant and—the horse trader. You have to have infinite patience, infinite optimism, and infinite faith in yourself. You must have the rare gift of getting along with people—all kinds of people." (b) A survey of the causes of business failures, however, suggests that adequate capital is an even more important asset than any of these.

With the opening of new stores prohibited during the war, and with many people, especially ex-servicemen, now having the necessary capital, a large influx of new proprietors is to be expected in the next few years. This should have a salutary effect on employment.

In addition to the two categories discussed, there are many other types of jobs in retail trade, especially in department and chain stores. Some of these are window dressers, clerical workers, warehousemen, drivers, accountants, bookkeepers, maintenance men, and personnel directors.

(b) "What it Takes to be a Retailer." U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Unions

Because of the nature of retail trade employment, only a very small percentage of the workers are union members. In 1944, the Retail Clerks International Protective Association (A.F.L.—10 locals—909 members) was the largest single organization. The National Catholic Unions have several locals in Quebec. There are also a number of other unions, among which the Canadian Retail Employees Union (Ontario) and the Wholesale, Retail and Distributive Workers' Union (Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan), are prominent. It is expected that many of these small independent unions will be incorporated in the Retail, Wholesale, and Department Store Employees Union (C.I.O.) which began organizing in Canada in 1945.

Strikes

Strikes have been infrequent in the trade, as the workers are so unorganized. During 1945, there was only one strike involving retail trade workers proper. This strike occurred in a Winnipeg department store from November 9 to November 17 and involved 24 workers for a total time loss of 100 days.

Employment Now Rising

Unless a complete reversal of past performances occurs, employment in retail trade, after increasing during this spring shopping season, will decline slightly until October. In view of the urgency and extent of existing consumer demand, it is possible that this spring addition to the employment ranks of retail stores will be in the neighbourhood of 15,000 to 20,000.

With more money now in circulation and shortages resulting from wartime scarcity not yet ended, retail business in general will be well above the pre-war average. The dealers in durable and semi-durable goods should have an exceptionally good year as such items as automobiles, refrigerators and washing machines are now being produced in increasing quantities. Many other types of stores, notably clothing, have always increased sales in the spring.

This increased purchasing power may eventually lead manufacturers to plan excessively high production quotas on the basis of misinformation on consumer demand received from retailers. It is possible that merchants are now ordering more goods than they expect to receive, or placing duplicate orders with several manufacturers in an effort to obtain the maximum amount of merchandise possible. To the extent that this occurs, it may result in over-production and cancellation of orders, with important repercussions on sales price and employment.

Future Prospects

The long term trend of retail trade employment is governed by general economic conditions. For at least two or three years it seems likely that employment will remain well above the 1939 average (260,000). A continued rise in the standard of living would be beneficial. But a repetition of the phenomenal development that occurred in the first half of this century cannot be expected. The trend towards urbanization is decelerating. Further, stores are now handling all the items formerly produced on the farm or in the home. In the future, more specialized services and greater variation in merchandise will offer the best opportunities to the retailer anxious to increase his business volume. This may mean that more specialized skills and knowledge will be required by retail proprietors and, to a lesser extent, by those seeking employment in the industry. The future growth of retail trade then, after the return to the peacetime normal occurs, can be expected at least to parallel, and quite probably to run ahead of, the trend of the growth of population as a whole.

PART III

AREA ANALYSIS

Section 1: --A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

The attempt to classify labour market areas according to the seriousness of unemployment in each raises two distinct problems. The first concerns the adoption of a satisfactory measure; the second concerns the selection of ranges along the measure which correspond to recognized levels of unemployment in the past.

The evaluation of the seriousness of unemployment in any area can be based upon the long or short term prospects of the local labour market. If a particular labour market is being studied from the point of view of its long term prospects, then the interpretation must be based in a large part on qualitative factors. If, however, the labour market in any area is being assessed solely on the basis of its current characteristics and its short term prospects, then the interpretation can be based almost entirely on quantitative data. It cannot be stressed too highly that it is the latter type of evaluation that is made by the measure that is adopted in the rating used in this section. More detailed and long term evaluation is attempted in the succeeding section of this report.

The number of unemployed is not an adequate index to use in evaluating the short term relative labour market situation in various localities. For this purpose the volume of unemployment must be related to some figure which measures the size of the area. This figure might be the population of the area, the number in the local labour force, or the numbers that are employed in the area. By using a population estimate as a base, many people are included in the measure whose activities have no relation to the labour market (i.e., housewives, students, retired persons). Since this proportion varies from area to area, a spurious element would be thus introduced into the measure.

An alternative is to use the ratio of the unemployed to the labour force. Theoretically, the latter figure is the best one to use as an indication of the size of an area. This includes all those who may become unemployed, and thus any shift in status of those employed, viewed in the broadest sense of the term (including paid wage and salary workers, employers, self-employed, and unpaid family workers), to the ranks of the unemployed would be immediately reflected in the ratio. On the other hand, movements within the labour force not resulting in unemployment would not affect the measure. Since the objective of the ratio is to evaluate the relative level of unemployment, this would be another advantage. However, the basic obstacle to the adoption of

this measure is that estimates of the labour force are not available at present. It is hoped that in a few months these will be obtained from the new Dominion Bureau of Statistics Labour Force Survey, and when these are available a ratio of unemployment to the labour force will be adopted.

A second alternative is to relate the volume of unemployment in each area to an estimate of total employment, defined as the number of wage and salary workers in the area. Since the base here suggested is a more variable quantity than would be the labour force as a whole, a more sensitive ratio is thus obtained. This being the case, the measure tends to emphasize short term changes to a relatively high degree. Unfortunately, however, it is also affected by changes not resulting in unemployment. For instance, a movement of workers from the paid worker category to a self-employed status would increase the ratio, and would suggest that the employment situation had become worse. This, however, is not serious since such movement is usually relatively slight. Until estimates of the labour force are available by area, therefore, the ratio used will be that of the number of unemployed per 1,000 employed workers.

It might be thought that the addition of the unemployed in any area to an estimate of the total number of wage and salary workers would give a figure approximately that of the labour force. The recent D.B.S. release on the labour force in Canada, however, disproves this theory. According to these estimates, about one-third of the whole labour force falls outside of the two groups, wage and salary workers and unemployed. This large portion of the labour force is spread over the following categories: employers, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and agricultural workers. Hence, the employed plus the unemployed should not be equated to the labour force.

The second and more difficult problem is that of distinguishing various ranges of unemployment. It is obvious that some unemployment is unavoidable in a dynamic economy as workers move from one job to another, as those leaving school fit themselves into their vocations, as older workers slowly withdraw from the labour force, and as seasonal workers shift from terminating jobs to new ones. An economy in which even "full employment" has been reached will necessarily have some unemployment. During 1943 and 1944, Canada more than achieved full employment. If the ratios are computed for June 1 of each of these years, it is found that there were 27 and 22 workers out of work per 1,000 employed at each of these dates respectively. However, this was a period when unemployment was at an even lower level than that commensurate with even the most favourable conditions of peace-time employment. Many workers had jobs when under less abnormal conditions they would have been unemployed or on the fringe of employability. Therefore, it does not seem unreasonable to define a ratio of 50 or less unemployed per 1,000 employed workers as the level of unemployment which would exist under satisfactory employment conditions.

It is of further aid to interpretation to evaluate other levels of unemployment on the basis of comparison with the past. At June 2, 1941, there were 280,000 unemployed in Canada, according to the results of the Decennial Census. If the above-mentioned ratio is computed for this period a figure of 113 is obtained. On the basis of this, therefore, another general level of unemployment might be indicated by ratios ranging from 50 to 150.

Estimates of unemployment in Canada at June 1, 1939, range from 350,000 to 650,000. If ratios are computed on the basis of these figures, a range of from 175 to 303 is obtained. It is reasonable, therefore, to categorize a more serious level of unemployment as that indicated by ratios ranging from 150 to 300.

Finally, all ratios above 300 can be viewed as a category of a still more serious nature. The schedules of the 1931 Decennial Census did not have a question which would segregate all those between 14 and 20 years of age who were seeking work for the first time but had not yet found a job. If, however, this group can be estimated as only slightly smaller than that which existed in 1941, an estimate of unemployment as at June 1, 1931, of 600,000 is obtained. For that date the ratio would be 310. During the years following 1931, unemployment increased, and thus the ratio would also become greater. All ratios over 300, therefore, can be taken as indicating levels of unemployment comparable to those that existed in the early Thirties.

In summary, the categories outlined above are as follows:

Group I—Areas in which over 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties".

Group II—Areas in which between 150 and 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III—Areas in which from 50 to 150 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV—Areas in which under 50 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Slight, that is, in general it is that which would exist under conditions of full employment according to the experience of the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be emphasized that this measure is only a simple and crude means of evaluating short-term relative levels of unemployment from area to area. There are many aspects of the local situation which are not reflected in the measure, such as the period of unemployment, the number of insured workers who have exhausted their benefits, the proportion of veterans unemployed, and the vociferousness of the local organizations. It is unpractical to develop a measure which would reflect all aspects of the local situation. The ratio used, therefore, can only be depended upon to indicate in general where more detailed investigation is necessary. Such investigation should provide some information on which administrative policy can be based. The textual analysis presented for each area in the remainder of this section is an attempt to outline briefly these specific aspects. Detailed studies of certain areas will be embodied in this report from time to time.

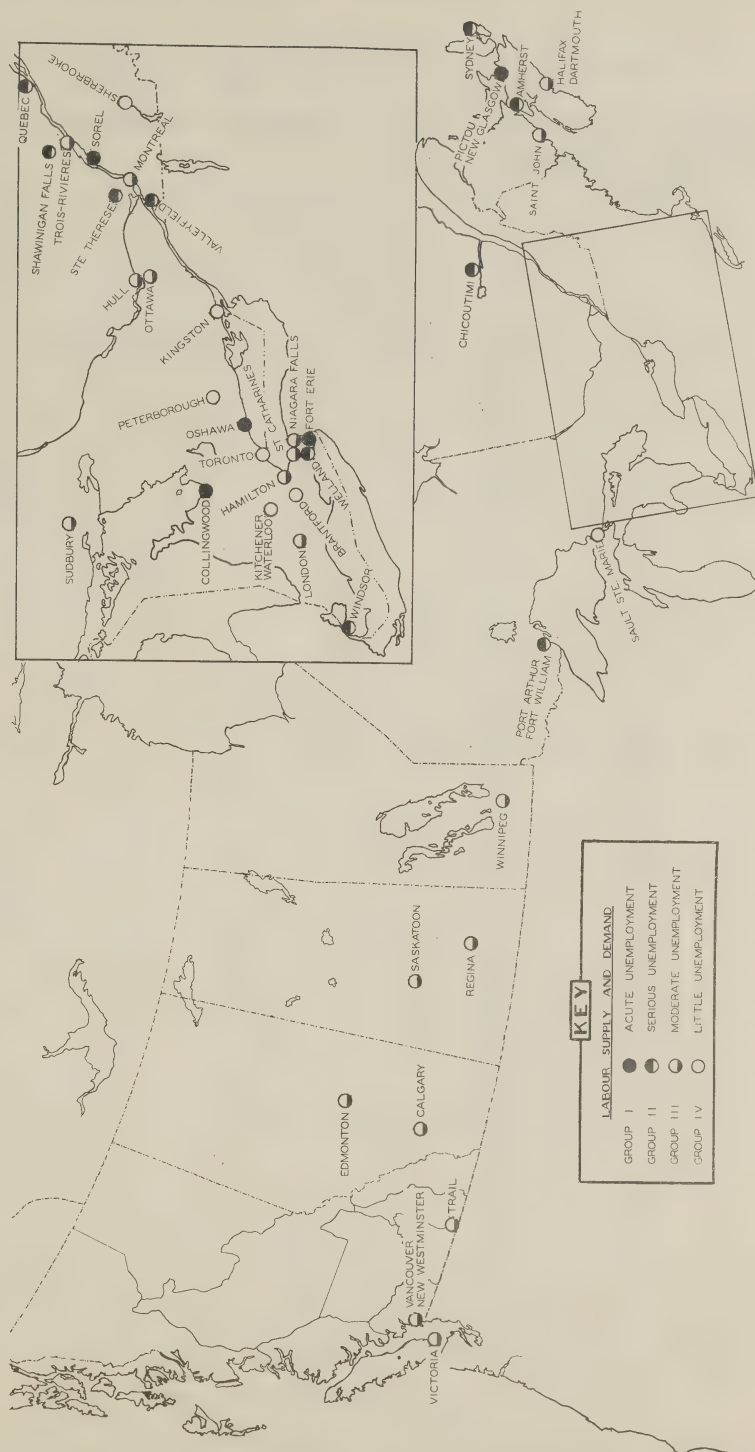
Accompanying the individual area analyses in the remainder of this section is a table presenting selected data on labour demand and supply. For purposes of comparison, a similar table for Canada as a whole is shown below:

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	%Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	84,214	233,703	19.5	95.3	62.5	59,861	25.6	16.0
Feb. 28/46	75,515	263,425	18.2	96.0	61.5	72,305	27.4	19.1
Mar. 14/46	77,725	266,548	18.2	96.0	Employment Estimate - 2,739,000			

On the following page is presented a table which shows the group rating for each area as at March 14, 1946, with comparable ratings for February 14, 1946, and January 17, 1946. In this table is also shown the page number for each area that is analyzed in the remainder of this section. Reference to any area can, therefore, be made more easily.

The figure accompanying the title of each textual area analysis in the remainder of this section (from pages 50 to 70 inclusive) represents the number unemployed per 1,000 employed workers in each area.

A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT MARCH 14, 1945



Index to Areas Analyzed in this Section with Comparable
Ratings for Two Selected Previous Dates

REFERENCE PAGE	AREA	GROUP RATING		
		Jan. 17, 1946	Feb. 14, 1946	Mar. 14, 1946
50	Fort Erie.....	I	I	I
50	Collingwood.....	I	I	I
51	Sorel.....	I	I	I
51	Oshawa.....	I	I	I
52	Pictou and New Glasgow.....	II	II	I
52	Windsor.....	I	I	II
53	Ste. Therese.....	III	II	II
53	Quebec ^(a)	II	II	II
54	Amherst.....	II	II	II
54	Chicoutimi.....	II	II	II
55	Welland.....	III	II	II
55	Sydney ^(b)	III	II	II
56	Fort William and Port Arthur.....	II	II	II
56	Shawinigan Falls.....	II	II	II
57	Valleyfield.....	III	II	II
57	Vancouver ^(c)	III	III	III
58	St. Catharines.....	III	III	III
58	Hull.....	III	III	III
59	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
59	Calgary ^(d)	III	III	III
60	Winnipeg.....	III	III	III
60	Montreal ^(e)	III	III	III
61	Edmonton.....	III	III	III
61	Hamilton.....	III	III	III
62	Regina.....	III	III	III
62	Sudbury.....	III	III	III
63	Victoria.....	III	III	III
63	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
64	Saint John.....	III	III	III
64	Trail.....	III	III	III
65	Saskatoon.....	IV	III	III
65	Halifax.....	IV	IV	III
66	London.....	IV	III	III
66	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	III
67	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
67	Sault Ste. Marie.....	IV	III	IV
68	Toronto ^(f)	IV	IV	IV
68	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
69	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
69	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
70	Kitchener-Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV

(a) Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

(b) Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.

(c) Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

(d) Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

(e) Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe aux Trembles, St. Paul l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

(f) Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

GROUP I

Areas in Which Unemployment Is Acute
(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, Over 300 are Unemployed)

FORT ERIE - 983

Situation stable -- Between September, 1939, and April, 1945, manufacturing employment showed an increase of over 500 per cent. About one-third of this employment was female. War employment was almost entirely associated with Fleet Aircraft and when this plant closed after the war, several thousand persons were thrown out of work. The shift of former war workers out of Fort Erie occurred fairly rapidly, as available employment was practically non-existent. There has been a steady rise in the number of unplaced applicants during the last four months, and at the present time the total unemployed in this area almost equals total employed. Fleet Aircraft is slowly swinging into production, 35 former employees having been re-hired recently. However, this rise in employment was offset by a lay-off of 40 men from Horton Steel at the same time. Nearly one-half the unemployed group are women, and the bulk of these are clerical and unskilled workers. Male job seekers are largely skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	26	637	45.5	100.0	99.8	78	12.2	11.1
Feb. 28/46	21	784	42.3	100.0	—	98	12.5	11.9
Mar. 14/46	23	786	39.3	98.9	Employment Estimate -- 800			

COLLINGWOOD - 718

Situation stable -- War employment in Collingwood was centered in shipbuilding and aircraft manufacturing. After the war, Clyde Aircraft closed, and mass lay-offs took place at Collingwood Shipyards. Local canning factories completed their work at an early date this year owing to shortages of several fruits, and have now reduced their staffs to a minimum. Although Collingwood is now rated as the second most serious "danger area" in Canada, future employment prospects are fairly bright. Globe Plywood, Collingwood's new furniture factory, has 50 employees on strength and will have increased that number to 200 by August, 1946. Male and female job seekers are for the most part skilled and semi-skilled metal workers, and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	77	619	19.1	99.2	84.7	96	15.5	13.1
Feb. 28/46	55	818	19.9	99.6	—	148	18.1	14.7
Mar. 14/46	53	862	19.0	99.7	Employment Estimate -- 1,200			

SOREL - 469

Situation stable — The war brought a major expansion of employment to Sorel. The mushroom growth of Marine Industries Ltd. and Sorel Industries Ltd. has been followed by a severe deflation. From a former peak war strength of 2,737 employees, Sorel Industries Ltd. now employs 700 with possibility of a further reduction in staff. Marine Industries Ltd. at present forms the backbone of employment in Sorel and although jobs in this plant have dropped from a peak war strength of 6,203 to 1,300, the company will have a work capacity for 3,000 employees by June or July. Production is retarded by shortages of materials. There are 2,343 male applicants for the 11 vacancies available for men. Unemployment is particularly severe for structural steel workers, riveters and welders. Many unskilled workers, skilled construction workers, and workers in miscellaneous occupations are idle. Female unemployment is not severe, for industry in Sorel employs chiefly male labour. However, demand for women is light with many clerical workers, textile workers, service workers and unskilled workers unplaced.

Date.	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	41	2,468	7.9	99.9	80.2	nil	nil	nil
Feb. 28/46	15	2,553	8.2	100.0	—	63	2.5	2.0
Mar. 14/46	18	2,577	8.8	100.0	Employment Estimate — 5,500			

OSHAWA - 394

Situation improving — Oshawa, the "Motor City" of Ontario, is the fourth largest manufacturing centre in the province. Although General Motors is by far the largest employer of labour, Oshawa has a number of other industries, many of which are "feeder" plants for General Motors. Employment in the latter company increased considerably during the war years. The need for extensive reconversion, however, and the strike involving its American parent Company, resulted in large-scale layoffs after V-J Day. Male job seekers outnumber vacancies by 22 to 1. The local office has had some requests for farm hands, but few men are interested in this type of work. Labour surpluses are particularly heavy in the following groups: clerical workers, carpenters, riveters, other metalworkers, automobile and truck assemblers, truck drivers and labourers. Less than 10 per cent of the unplaced applicants are veterans. Job offerings for women are chiefly in the domestic service field. Over one-half the female unplaced applicants are unskilled.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 days
Jan. 31/46	384	6,577	34.5	97.4	74.1	877	13.3	4.3
Feb. 28/46	305	6,403	32.5	98.3	—	600	9.4	7.4
Mar. 14/46	309	6,425	31.3	98.2	Employment Estimate — 16,300			

PICTOU AND NEW GLASGOW - 337

Situation stable — In its present expanded form ship-building in Pictou is largely a wartime development and as yet there is no guarantee that the present level of employment—still above the pre-war level—will be maintained. The Eastern Car Co. continues production on a reduced scale, and it is expected that when the plant is in full operation it will employ 900 men. Pictou Foundry Machine Company hired 20 men last week and will need ships' platers and fitters for new orders on ship repair work within the next three weeks. Most of the male unemployed are unskilled workers, metalworkers, workers in miscellaneous occupations, and construction workers. Most female vacancies are for domestics. Many female skilled and semi-skilled factory workers are unemployed.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	68	2,283	11.3	99.4	77.6	563	24.7	19.4
Feb. 28/46	100	2,616	10.0	99.6	—	734	28.1	21.4
Mar. 14/46	99	2,867	10.3	99.4	Employment Estimate — 8,500			

GROUP II

Areas in Which Unemployment is Serious

(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, from 150 to 300 are Unemployed)

WINDSOR - 267

Situation Improving — Windsor is slowly recovering from the impact of industrial disputes in the United States. Nearly all the major industrial concerns are now working at full capacity, and those workers temporarily laid-off because of the steel strike have been recalled. Settlement of the United States General Motors strike will mean resumption of work for 500 employees of the local G.M. plant. There was a slight improvement in the construction industry during the last 30-day period. A few contractors have been able to secure lumber and other materials, and some carpenters have been placed. Industrial placements are becoming increasingly slow, and it is felt that most industries have now reached their peak employment level. The percentage of unplaced veterans to total unemployed is considerably lower than the Canadian average. There is a heavy surplus of semi-skilled and unskilled factory workers, both male and female, while demand is mainly for skilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	397	12,734	18.9	99.0	48.3	2,444	19.2	16.1
Feb. 28/46	370	17,165	13.7	99.5	—	2,449	14.3	12.5
Mar. 14/46	422	10,111	22.3	98.7	Employment Estimate — 37,900			

STE. THERESE - 256

Situation becoming worse — Previous to the war, the economy of this area was well balanced, agriculture and manufacturing both being important industries. During the war, manufacturing increased sharply, the direct result of the establishment of the Defense Industries Ltd. plant, which employed 6,000 at its peak. After V-J Day mass lay offs occurred, and by January, 1946, employment in this firm had dropped to less than 100. Although many former war-workers moved from the district, and others, particularly women workers, retired from the labour market, there still remains a relatively large labour surplus. Job opportunities at the present time are limited, but it is expected that conditions will improve during the coming months. Andreef Sporting Goods are establishing a plant in this town which will provide employment for 50 to 75 persons. About 40 workers (carpenters and labourers) will be required for the actual construction of the plant. At present there is a heavy surplus of construction tradesmen and unskilled workers. The number of veterans seeking employment is small.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	222	618	23.3	96.6	82.8	30	4.9	1.9
Feb. 28/46	212	767	23.1	95.4	—	32	4.2	3.1
Mar. 14/46	200	769	24.7	97.1	Employment Estimate — 3,000			

QUEBEC - 255

Situation Stable — Unemployment in Quebec City is largely the result of the sharp decline in expanded and inconvertible war industry. In December, 1943, when war production reached an all time high, the employment index stood at 284.8, and has since dropped to 166.4 as at January, 1945. Some new industries have started operating in the Quebec area since the war, but these have absorbed comparatively few workers. The majority of unplaced applicants have been unemployed for some time, and, although employment conditions should improve within the next two months, local industries cannot possibly absorb the large number of job seekers in this city. Male unplaced applicants outnumber jobs by approximately 26 to 1, with clerical workers, sales clerks, carpenters, machinists, truck drivers, and unskilled labourers most numerous among the unemployed. The ratio of female applicants to jobs is 12 to 1.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	1,368	16,108	31.7	99.1	77.2	1,710	10.6	7.4
Feb. 28/46	1,025	16,450	32.2	99.1	—	1,909	11.6	8.9
Mar. 14/46	852	16,576	31.8	98.9	Employment Estimate — 65,100			

AMHERST - 249

Situation stable -- Amherst was a war boom city. Canadian Car and Foundry Co., manufacturing aircraft parts and doing repairs, now employs one-quarter of its peak wartime working force, and further drastic cuts are expected. There are four times as many men working on the production of railway cars for the same company as before the war, but this work will continue for three or four years due to the lack of rolling stock both here and abroad. Manufacturing in this area has been slowed down solely because manufacturers cannot procure materials and supplies. There has been a lay-off at the Maritime Pant Manufacturing Co. which is unable to swing into civilian production because of lack of materials. There is a great deal of building to be done but owing to lack of building materials it is not known when construction will be able to start. Some truck drivers now drawing unemployment insurance will be busy as soon as trucks are available, but there is no demand for loggers. In the spring Canada Electric intends to extend its electric service through several rural communities. Most idle men are unskilled workers, workers in miscellaneous occupations, carpenters and painters, or clerical and sales workers. Except for a demand for two waitresses and one salesworker, there are no openings for the 253 unplaced women. There are only nine vacancies compared to 1,045 unplaced applicants, male and female.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. App.	% Female Unpl. App.	% Unref. App.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	66	1,042	24.1	95.9	60.8	339	32.5	28.5
Feb. 28/46	6	969	23.2	99.7	—	365	37.7	31.4
Mar. 14/46	9	1,045	24.2	99.5	Employment Estimate — 4,200			

CHICOUTIMI - 243

Situation becoming worse -- The post-war decline in aluminum production at Arvida created an unemployment situation which is relatively serious. Employment in this major industry mushroomed during the war, and reconversion to the peacetime level resulted in the present labour surplus. The future of aluminum however, is bright and the Aluminium Co. of Canada hopes to double its pre-war production. Alternative employment in the Chicoutimi area is largely seasonal, logging ranking second. At the present time labour demand is limited, and although there is a heavy demand for loggers, little activity is reported in other industries. The percentage of unplaced veterans is low, but at the present time few suitable jobs are offered for the ex-service man. Female job seekers are largely clerical and sales workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. App.	% Female Unpl. App.	% Unref. App.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	2,402	1,276	11.0	98.7	85.2	56	4.4	3.2
Feb. 28/46	1,232	1,251	11.7	99.0	—	69	5.5	3.9
Mar. 14/46	1,138	1,360	11.2	98.5	Employment Estimate — 5,600			

FORT WILLIAM AND PORT ARTHUR - 207

Situation stable — Employment expansion during the war was chiefly in the Canadian Car and Foundry Co., producing aircraft, and the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Co. The former has temporarily laid off 800 employees because of a shortage of materials caused by the United States steel strike. Lack of materials is also a serious detriment to the impending construction boom, and when they become available there will possibly be a shortage of skilled workers. The Port Arthur Shipbuilding Co. is laying off men as current work is completed. Activity in prospecting and developing is increasing throughout the district. The majority of mines in the Geraldton-Beardmore area require men, but a lack of living accommodation hinders their placement. The majority of men unemployed are unskilled workers, skilled and semi-skilled workers, construction workers, and metalworkers. There are few vacancies available for approximately 1,500 women applicants. Female demand is mainly for service workers with the occasional call for skilled stenographers and typists.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	2,100	3,808	36.5	93.7	74.9	764	20.1	9.8
Feb. 28/46	2,076	4,403	34.3	94.1	—	988	22.4	14.6
Mar. 14/46	2,318	4,839	32.1	94.4	Employment Estimate — 23,400			

SHAWINIGAN FALLS - 201

Situation stable — War employment, concentrated in the chemicals and non-ferrous metal groups, was 78 per cent of total employment in May, 1945. The Aluminum Company of Canada Ltd. has since reduced employment by nearly 50 per cent. Shawinigan Falls has the advantage of cheap and extensive electrical power, which should attract other industries to this locality. The outlook for the greatly expanded chemical industry is good; many new commercial products, including DDT, are being produced. Employment will realize a slight expansion, or at least a maintained level, in pulp and paper, textiles, carborundum and electric steels. Local industries have not yet recovered from the effect of the American steel strike: Shawinigan Chemicals Ltd. (Carbide-Division) was forced to lay-off men because of a shortage of steel drums. Coal shortages resulted in a small temporary lay-off at the Canadian Carborundum Co. There were 1,425 men and 236 women on unemployment insurance benefits in the latter part of February. Sixty per cent of the men idle are unskilled workers, but a considerable number of machinists and welders are applying for work and many carpenters are unemployed. There are 10 vacancies for the 289 female applicants. Most unemployed women are skilled and semi-skilled, sales, clerical and textile workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	60	2,116	10.8	100.0	73.2	47	2.2	0.7
Feb. 28/46	22	2,071	13.3	100.0	—	47	2.3	2.3
Mar. 14/46	12	2,151	13.6	99.9	Employment Estimate — 10,700			

VALLEYFIELD - 187

Situation stable — Textile manufacturing was Valleyfield's main pre-war industry and Montreal Cottons alone employed 2,000 persons. Establishment of the Defence Industries Limited plant created 2,000 jobs during the war, but by January 1, 1946, this firm had only 415 employees on its payroll. Many persons laid off from D.I.L. have emigrated, returned to agriculture, or have gone back to other "own account" and unpaid jobs. It is expected that the unemployment situation will be further relieved when the agricultural season is in full swing. Construction projects scheduled to start shortly will provide more employment. The heaviest surpluses of male labour are found among the following: construction workers, millwrights, other skilled and semi-skilled, and unskilled workers. There is a shortage of female workers, particularly in the textile mills.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	187	966	7.9	92.2	68.4	89	9.2	3.8
Feb. 28/46	166	1,155	7.2	97.0	—	120	10.4	7.0
Mar. 14/46	148	1,141	8.2	96.8	Employment Estimate — 6,100			

GROUP III

Areas in Which Unemployment is Moderate

(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, from 50 to 150 are Unemployed)

VANCOUVER - 139

Situation stable — Vancouver's wartime labour expansion was primarily in aircraft production, negligible before the war and now greatly curtailed, and in shipbuilding, which has also suffered a severe set-back. There are still many shipyard and aircraft workers unemployed with no relief for this condition in sight unless other industries expand sufficiently to absorb them. West Coast Shipyard and Burrard Dry Dock have received orders for the conversion of corvettes to coastal passenger vessels, but no additional help is required at present. Shortage of materials is retarding construction but skilled carpenters and plasterers are in demand. While there is a good demand for female service and textile workers, many metalworkers, and other skilled and semi-skilled workers are unemployed.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	3,753	21,930	20.2	95.2	62.2	6,876	31.4	20.3
Feb. 28/46	3,948	24,208	19.5	94.7	—	8,019	33.1	24.6
Mar. 14/46	3,880	25,352	18.6	94.7	Employment Estimate — 182,400			

ST. CATHARINES - 126

Situation stable — Manufacturing employment in St. Catharines doubled between September, 1939 and April, 1945, increases in the automotive and iron and steel industries being heaviest. Such employment, however, was reduced drastically after V-J Day, and the return of ex-servicemen, coupled with the influx of displaced war workers to the labour market, resulted in a large labour surplus. While still in the midst of reconversion, this city was adversely affected by the steel strike and the General Motors strike in the United States. It was the latter strike which has been the chief cause of lay-offs in this district, and a general return to work cannot be expected until needed parts can be obtained from General Motors in the United States. The slight drop in male unemployed applicants which occurred between February 14 and March 14 was offset by the accompanying decrease in employment.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	303	3,014	33.2	99.2	54.2	480	15.9	10.7
Feb. 28/46	226	3,569	30.5	99.2	—	620	17.4	12.6
Mar. 14/46	321	3,319	31.4	99.3	Employment Estimate — 26,300			

HULL - 118

Situation stable — Hull is primarily a pulp and paper centre, although iron and steel, textiles, and meat packing are also important activities. Iron and steel employment has decreased considerably since the peak month of December, 1944, but civilian industries such as pulp and paper, and textiles, are on the upswing. Unemployment, although moderate, is increasing, chiefly because of the high rate of service discharges, the seasonal low in employment, and the "bottleneck" in construction materials. It is expected that conditions will improve in the spring. Current job openings for men exist mostly in logging, whereas construction workers and unskilled labour are in surplus supply. Numerically, female demand and supply is balanced, but demand is chiefly for domestic and textile workers, while supply is largely made up of clerical and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	499	948	11.7	96.4	60.9	257	27.1	20.1
Feb. 28/46	448	1,137	10.3	96.1	—	412	36.2	30.1
Mar. 14/46	480	1,344	11.5	97.5	Employment Estimate — 11,400			

THREE RIVERS - 111

Situation becoming worse — Three Rivers is fundamentally a textile and pulp paper town. During the war munitions created a substantial amount of employment, and the post-war decline in war manufacturing, combined with the return of ex-servicemen, resulted in the present unemployment situation. To help in placing veterans, the local office has been sending out a semi-monthly circular letter to various employers in the city, listing the names and qualifications of unemployed veterans. The results have been very satisfactory, and at February 28, only 8 out of every 100 job seekers were veterans, compared with a Canada total ratio of 25 per 100. Industrially, Three Rivers is quiet at present, except for the construction industry, which is showing signs of picking up. Several building projects are already under way, and it is expected that all construction workers possessing the required qualifications will be employed shortly. Male clerical workers, sales workers, construction tradesmen, machinists, truck drivers, and labourers are in excess supply. Demand is chiefly for loggers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	527	3,381	24.8	98.3	71.8	269	8.0	6.7
Feb. 28/46	170	3,374	23.9	97.8	—	288	8.5	6.1
Mar. 14/46	197	3,335	24.5	97.6	Employment Estimate — 30,100			

CALGARY - 108

Situation stable — Like other prairie centres, Calgary has a high percentage of manpower engaged in trade and service. Its future prosperity, therefore, depends largely upon economic conditions in the surrounding area. Signs of normal spring revival in agriculture are evident but there is no increase in manufacturing activity as yet. Standard Brands Ltd. have opened negotiations for building a \$500,000 plant to manufacture yeast, and expect to start operation early in 1947. The Spillers Ltd. flour mill, closed since 1933, has been purchased by the Copeland Flour Mills of Midland, Ontario. The staff for this mill will be selected from local applicants. Construction will remain sluggish until milder weather comes and materials become available, when a shortage of skilled carpenters is foreseen. There is a good demand for female service workers and textile workers but there are many unskilled workers, clerical and sales workers idle.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	643	4,162	16.8	95.0	49.5	1,768	42.5	25.2
Feb. 28/46	754	4,848	16.3	96.8	—	2,194	45.3	33.6
Mar. 14/46	883	4,921	15.2	96.3	Employment Estimate — 45,500			

WINNIPEG - 106

Situation stable — Manufacturing in Winnipeg expanded by 60 per cent from 1939 to 1945. Although some of the war-time increase in manufacturing was in munitions, chemicals, shells and aircraft, most was in the production of foodstuffs, clothing, and other essential articles of a civilian character for the armed forces. The major part of the expanded labour force, therefore, need not be concerned with reconversion as much as the continued or increased need for civilian goods. Layoffs are numerous, however, principally in manufacturing. Canada Packers, Swift Canadian, and Burns and Co. continue to release men, and the T. Eaton Co. are laying off 125 women. Defence Industries' cordite plant closed on March 15, necessitating a lay-off of 252 male employees. Shortages of material are holding up work in building construction, iron and steel manufacturing, and textile plants. About one-third of all unplaced male applicants are unskilled workers. Many motor mechanics and truck drivers are idle. Every effort is being made to place ex-servicemen but many married men are reluctant to accept jobs at the wages offered. Little suitable light work is available for disabled veterans.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	2,493	12,192	23.2	92.1	53.2	4,387	36.0	24.2
Feb. 28/46	2,177	13,928	21.6	92.8	—	5,416	38.9	30.3
Mar. 14/46	2,204	14,152	19.4	94.3	Employment Estimate — 133,200			

MONTREAL - 88

Situation stable — While reconversion has proceeded fairly smoothly, production and employment have been retarded by lack of vital materials. Employment has decreased steadily since VJ Day, and the situation has been further aggravated by the return of thousands of veterans to the labour market. However, in spite of these drawbacks, the ratio of unplaced workers to total employed is not critically high. There is an overall surplus of male labour, particularly in the white collar class, also in the construction, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled categories. Current job openings are at a minimum, and are concentrated primarily in lumber, wood, and textile activities. Approximately 14,290 job openings are listed at the local employment offices, of which 5,057 are for women. The shortage of female workers is most noticeable in the lower paid industries such as textile and manufacturing wearing apparel. Although many veterans are furthering their education or taking government sponsored training, nearly one-fifth of the unemployed workers are veterans.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	13,901	35,931	14.9	95.7	72.7	5,302	17.5	11.2
Feb. 28/46	13,484	40,000	14.9	95.8	—	7,553	19.1	12.2
Mar. 14/46	14,290	36,907	15.3	96.0	Employment Estimate — 441,900			

EDMONTON - 83

Situation becoming worse --- Wartime expansion of employment in Edmonton was chiefly in aircraft repairs, -- a type of work non-existent here before the war -- and in meat packing plants. The proportion of workers engaged in transportation, trade, and service is considerably above the Dominion average and indicates the extent to which Edmonton is dependent on the prosperity of the area it serves. A two million dollar highway, providing year-round transportation into the boom mining town of Yellowknife on Great Slave Lake, is scheduled for completion by December 31, 1947. A request that at least 2,000 German prisoners be retained for work on the sugar-beet crop this summer has been made by Agricultural Minister D.B. MacMillan in anticipation of an acute labour shortage. Since February 1, 1946, 400 loggers have gone into the bush and the demand is still high. Cattle and hog receipts are down and packing plants are gradually laying off men. Building construction is moderate with a considerable shortage of building materials. Unskilled male workers comprise 33.9 per cent of all unplaced applicants. There are also large numbers of truck and tractor drivers, carpenters, service workers, clerical and sales workers idle. The supply of female service workers almost equals the demand but many unskilled and clerical workers are unemployed.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unrel. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	1,268	4,303	16.2	94.7	38.9	1,982	46.1	22.7
Feb. 28/46	1,138	5,198	17.7	95.2	—	2,388	45.9	24.1
Mar. 14/46	1,181	5,518	15.6	95.3	Employment Estimate — 57,300			

HAMILTON - 83

Situation stable --- The general employment situation in Hamilton shows signs of improving soon. Cold weather, material shortages, and lack of skilled building tradesmen have retarded reconversion plans. With the United States steel strike settled, steel companies in Hamilton now may obtain supplies and thus increase their production and employment. Transitional unemployment features the steel industry at present and recent lay-offs have been largely the result of switching over to new contracts and temporary shortages of material. At March 14 there were five applicants for every male vacancy while 1,371 female job seekers were available for 863 vacancies. Most numerous among male job seekers are skilled and semi-skilled metal workers and unskilled labourers. There is a heavy concentration of unemployed females in the following occupations: clerical workers, service workers, and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unrel. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	1,592	6,137	21.0	95.0	77.6	1,582	25.8	17.7
Feb. 28/46	1,704	6,310	21.1	95.3	—	2,003	31.7	20.8
Mar. 14/46	1,899	6,585	20.5	96.5	Employment Estimate — 80,800			

REGINA - 82

Situation stable -- Expanded war employment in Regina was primarily in Regina Industries Ltd. (war supplies), Burns and Co. Ltd. (meat packing), and the Imperial Oil Co. Ltd. (refinery). Since July 1, 1944, total manufacturing employment has decreased by 32.4 per cent. Employment in edible animal products is down by 51.3 per cent, and iron and steel is down by 66.4 per cent. The comparison is with January 1, 1946, however, and the seasonal factor must be considered. As in the majority of regions, jobs in trade increased, by 24.2 per cent. There are now eight male applicants for every vacancy in all classes of help. Most idle men are unskilled workers, truck drivers and mechanics, construction workers, clerical and sales workers, and professional and managerial workers. Generally speaking, construction work is dormant until the weather breaks. There is a small demand for labourers for short time jobs. An average of seven veterans are placed every day, with new registrants averaging 20. New applicants for out-of-work-benefits average 12 per day. There are 294 vacancies available for women, compared to 416 applicants. An unusually large number of recent placements have been made in domestic work. Clerical workers are in good demand and those with the necessary experience can be easily placed. Unplaced female applicants, aside from sales clerks and unskilled workers, are greatly diversified.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	554	2,180	26.1	93.2	49.5	1,091	50.0	39.8
Feb. 28/46	539	2,393	20.1	94.1	—	1,135	47.4	43.1
Mar. 14/46	533	2,423	17.2	92.2	Employment Estimate — 29,700			

SUDBURY - 81

Situation becoming worse -- Sudbury is almost entirely dependent on its nickel mines and smelting plants, and as world demand for nickel rises or falls, so employment in Sudbury shows an increase or decrease. Abnormally high production during the war resulted in an unstable level of employment, and the subsequent decrease after the war, combined with the return of ex-servicemen to the labour market, brought about the present unemployment problem. However, the situation is not acute, and demand for nickel is higher than the average prewar output. Unplaced applicants remained stable between February 14 and March 14, but the number of job openings decreased sharply. The percentage of unemployed veterans to total unplaced applicants is small, but the majority of unemployed ex-service men have been out of work for fifteen days or more. Female job seekers are for the most part clerical, sales, and service workers, or unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	754	2,087	27.0	81.6	52.6	383	18.4	9.9
Feb. 28/46	535	2,006	29.1	84.4	—	334	16.7	13.5
Mar. 14/46	250	2,054	30.0	88.5	Employment Estimate — 25,300			

VICTORIA - 74

Situation stable — Victoria's labour force increased threefold during the war years because of expansion in shipbuilding and service and trade. Employment in shipbuilding will be the most important determinant of employment prospects until the volume of business in trade and service becomes stabilized. All wooden shipyards in the Victoria region are busy, with a steady demand for skilled boat builders or finishing carpenters. Improved weather conditions have resulted in an increased demand for construction workers but available work is being retarded by lack of materials. Skilled carpenters are in demand but nearly 60 per cent of the many construction tradesmen are over 50 years of age, and are not suitable for structural work. Demand for unskilled labour is on the up grade, but many white collar and service workers are unemployed. The heavy demand for female typists and stenographers is mostly due to labour turnover. Unskilled female workers and sales workers form 44.3 per cent of all unplaced female applicants.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	718	3,369	16.1	98.1	56.1	1,344	39.9	20.6
Feb. 28/46	909	3,310	15.9	96.4	—	1,376	41.6	26.2
Mar. 14/46	874	3,269	15.5	96.7	Employment Estimate — 44,200			

OTTAWA - 67

Situation stable — Unemployment in Ottawa is increasing. A bright feature of the picture, however, is that new employment opportunities are arising. Approximately two-fifths of the job seekers in Ottawa are veterans, and of these two-thirds have been without work for more than 14 days. The excess supply of clerical and professional men is large, both among ex-service personnel and civilians, the general downgrading in salary making it difficult to place these men in satisfactory positions. The majority of carpenters and other building tradesmen could be readily placed if construction materials were available. The increase in the number of unskilled labourers and truck drivers is largely due to the seasonal lull in employment. Many labourers employed in snow removal are not required now, but it is expected that demand for unskilled labour will increase shortly. During the last three months, there has been a sharp upswing in unplaced female applicants. The policy of the Civil Service in releasing married women has accounted for this development.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	1,290	3,135	16.0	94.6	44.7	1,189	37.9	26.0
Feb. 28/46	1,308	3,719	17.1	95.8	—	1,472	39.6	26.3
Mar. 14/46	1,320	3,881	17.1	96.9	Employment Estimate — 57,700			

SAINT JOHN - 64

Situation stable -- Saint John's expansion in employment during the war was chiefly in iron and steel (principally shipbuilding), and trade. Employment in iron and steel has been cut in half since July, 1944. Trade, however, has continued to increase as more civilian goods become available. Shipping activity in Saint John is now at the highest peak in the history of this port. Saint John Iron Works and Saint John Dry Dock have placed a large number of men recently but employment will slacken in the latter company as ships will return to the Port of Montreal when navigation permits. Construction is active with a brisk demand for carpenters, painters, and plumbers. Manufacturing still requires skilled and semi-skilled personnel, and although there are many applicants for such work, they lack the skills required. Work on the waterfront is busier than at the peak war employment. Fishing is at a standstill in this area, however, and most lumber operators are nearly finished cutting. Most of the men unemployed are skilled and semi-skilled, unskilled, service, clerical and metalworkers. There is a definite shortage of female labour as regards service, clerical, sales, skilled and semi-skilled, and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	731	1,553	11.2	96.3	30.3	726	46.7	25.3
Feb. 28/46	814	1,673	9.7	97.4	—	929	55.5	37.7
Mar. 14/46	726	1,691	10.2	96.4	Employment Estimate — 26,600			

TRAIL - 63

Situation stable — The labour market in Trail is tied up specifically with the labour demand of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. and the seasonal activity of numerous small logging outfits. A chemical plant established by the Government during the war is now producing fertilizer. Employment operations are at their lowest ebb, with many employers waiting for better weather conditions before seeking more help. The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. will not require any help for at least six weeks. Numerous small logging outfits will not start cutting until about the middle of May. The housing situation is still acute and there will be no relief until materials become available. Most of the male unemployed are unskilled workers, workers in miscellaneous occupations, metalworkers, carpenters, loggers, and service workers. Fifty-one per cent of all female unemployed applicants are unskilled workers. There are still more female unemployed applicants than male (310-212).

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	58	470	56.6	98.9	74.0	69	14.7	10.2
Feb. 28/46	32	523	60.4	99.6	—	72	13.8	11.3
Mar. 14/46	34	522	59.4	99.8	Employment Estimate — 8,300			

SASKATOON - 56

Situation stable — Saskatoon's boost in employment during the war was chiefly in civilian goods. Thus, her prosperity depends largely on the demand of the surrounding area for foodstuffs, trade and services. Hog and cattle runs show a continued decrease. Due to shortage of goods, business conditions in the wholesale and retail field are quiet. Some grain elevators have been closed, several probably permanently. Agricultural activity has been light with a few orders for tractor men. Building permits for private dwellings are double those of last year for the same period. The number of discharges reporting to the local employment office from the Naval Release Centre has dropped from a former peak of 300 - 500 per month to 100 or less. Indications are that the centre will close about the end of March. There are many unskilled workers, agricultural workers and truck-drivers unemployed at present. There is a good demand for female service workers but many unskilled workers, clerical and sales workers are idle.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	495	2,031	22.2	87.3	40.1	772	38.0	21.3
Feb. 28/46	570	2,128	22.6	91.1	—	856	40.2	28.5
Mar. 14/46	528	2,253	23.8	90.6	Employment Estimate — 40,400			

HALIFAX - 53

Situation stable — During the war Halifax had the largest relative growth of population of any city in the Dominion with a population of more than 25,000. Unlike other centres, expansion in non-manufacturing approached the increase in manufacturing. Within non-manufacturing the largest growth was in transportation. In August, 1945, manufacturing accounted for considerably less than half the total employment, and shipbuilding accounted for 63 per cent of all manufacturing workers. A great amount of the unemployment in this area appears due to the shortage of materials and raw manufacturing products. A concentrated drive by the Employer Relations Officers to enlist employers' aid in obtaining positions for unplaced applicants has resulted in the discovery of 500 jobs amongst some 125 employers. Halifax Shipyards Limited have sufficient orders on hand to continue at full operation for some time to come, with increased demands for skilled and semi-skilled workers expected soon. Employment on the waterfront is at peak level with a continued expansion probable for some time to come. Proposed expansion in the fish processing plants will provide employment for approximately 125 men and 50 women. Most male unemployed are unskilled workers, service workers, truck drivers, and construction workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	1,247	1,860	17.7	93.7	26.5	702	37.7	14.4
Feb. 28/46	1,283	1,973	14.0	96.2	—	822	44.7	12.5
Mar. 14/46	1,345	2,429	14.7	95.7	Employment Estimate — 45,800			

LONDON - 52

Situation stable — London, situated in the heart of one of the richest farming districts in Ontario, has diversified industries, and because of this is passing through the reconversion period without much difficulty. An important manufacturer of iron and steel products, textiles, and food products, London also has many other industries in which civilian demand has increased during the war. Some minor lay-offs have occurred, resulting from industrial disputes in the United States, but re-instatements will take place when the flow of materials is resumed. The ratio of male applicants to jobs available is approximately two to one, but demand and supply are poorly balanced. The ratio of veterans to total unemployed (35.9 per cent) is higher than the Canada average (27.4 per cent). Women workers are in short supply, stenographers, typists, sales workers, textile workers and domestic help being particularly scarce.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	1,015	1,525	15.1	91.5	43.1	537	35.2	19.7
Feb. 28/46	1,014	1,491	15.2	91.5	—	535	35.9	22.3
Mar. 14/46	1,120	1,507	15.8	89.1	Employment Estimate — 29,200			

NIAGARA FALLS - 51

Situation stable — The war raised employment at Niagara Falls in many industries, particularly in iron and steel, non-ferrous metals, and chemicals. Post-war declines in these industries caused some unemployment, but this is largely transitional. Seasonal employment, an important feature of industry in Niagara Falls, at present is at a low ebb. During the late spring and summer months agricultural activity and the tourist trade will show a decided upswing, and employment will increase. Almost one-third of the total unplaced applicants are veterans. Employers report that at present it is difficult to place those ex-servicemen eligible for re-instatement without releasing other help. Over half the male job seekers are construction workers and unskilled labourers. There are vacancies for female clerical, sales, and unskilled workers, but most of the suitable applicants are married women, while almost all employers are requesting single girls.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	118	692	21.5	98.4	54.3	222	32.1	21.4
Feb. 28/46	278	851	24.3	96.8	—	269	31.6	24.6
Mar. 14/46	228	846	26.2	98.7	Employment Estimate — 16,600			

GROUP IV

Areas in Which Unemployment is Slight
(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, Less Than 50 are Unemployed)

BRANTFORD - 50

Situation stable -- Brantford, with its preponderance of heavy industry, was slightly adaptable to the change from civilian to war industry. Employment in this city rose sharply when firms such as Massey-Harris and Cockshutt Plow, peacetime manufacturers of farm equipment, turned to munitions. Although post-war reconversion now has been completed, efforts to fill the demand for civilian supplies have been retarded by shortages of basic materials, particularly steel. The lack of skilled men, especially moulders, is also holding up production in the heavy iron and steel industry. Construction still remains inactive, partly because of weather conditions, but principally because of shortages of materials. Numerically, male labour demand and supply are balanced, but while demand is chiefly for moulders and other skilled metal workers, a large portion of the job seekers are unskilled. There is a steady demand for domestic servants and skilled textile workers, but female applicants are mostly clerical and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 days
Jan. 31/46	396	733	40.2	92.0	50.9	132	18.0	9.1
Feb. 28/46	460	663	41.3	93.4	—	135	20.4	8.6
Mar. 14/46	465	780	39.1	95.8	Employment Estimate — 15,600			

SAULT STE. MARIE - 49

Situation stable -- The war caused a 65 per cent expansion in the major industry of this area, iron and steel, and this industry is still very busy. The use of chromium steel is increasing, and some expansion in the mining and smelting of chromium is to be expected. There is a heavy demand for teamsters, loaders, and haulers, for logging operations in the district. Construction is quiet with no requirements for labour. Most of the ~~men~~ idle are heavy labourers, carpenters, clerical workers, and protective workers. There are but four vacancies for the 389 female applicants. Most of the unemployed women are unskilled workers, clerical workers, and sales and service workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 days
Jan. 31/46	622	666	60.2	94.3	87.2	41	6.2	6.2
Feb. 28/46	613	696	56.5	94.4	—	52	7.5	7.5
Mar. 14/46	747	706	54.5	97.0	Employment Estimate — 14,400			

TORONTO - 48

Situation stable — Unemployment is not serious in Toronto, although lay-offs from war industries have resulted in a male labour surplus. Returning ex-service-men have further added to the unemployed, and now comprise fifty per cent of total male unplaced applicants. Post-war expansion in trade and finance brought an increased demand for female help, and vacancies for women outnumber applicants by six to one. Among male applicants there is a heavy surplus of professional and managerial workers, clerical workers, sales workers, truck drivers, and unskilled labourers. Demand for labourers is fairly steady, but the supply of this type of worker is of a poor quality. Women are in short supply in almost every industry. Junior clerks, domestic workers, textile workers, and unskilled factory workers are difficult to obtain.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	9,659	16,149	7.6	93.4	48.7	7,305	45.2	24.3
Feb. 28/46	10,250	16,555	6.3	94.8	—	7,612	43.0	30.6
Mar. 14/46	11,447	17,474	5.9	95.0	Employment Estimate — 367,700			

KINGSTON - 43

Situation stable — In July, 1943, near the peak of war employment, 50 per cent of the Kingston labour force were in the aluminum industry, 20 per cent were building locomotives or other iron products, 10 per cent were in shipbuilding, 10 per cent in textiles, and the remainder were producing leather, serge cloth, chemicals and foods for the armed forces. Both the Aluminum Co. and the Nylon Division of Canadian Industries Ltd. are of war-time origin. Employment in the aluminum plant has dropped approximately 50 per cent but its peacetime potentialities as well as those of the nylon plant, which is expanding, are good. Production of locomotives and railway rolling stock has been maintained. The Kingston Shipbuilding Co. is busy finishing repairs on lake boats, but a lay-off is possible after the opening of navigation. The Aluminum Co. hired 15 men last week and reports that business is improving and further hiring is probable. There is a shortage of electricians and bricklayers for work on the new addition to Canadian Industries Nylon Plant. Most men idle are unskilled workers, truck drivers, and clerical workers. Demand for female service workers is brisk but many unskilled workers, sales and clerical workers are idle.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	250	587	30.0	91.8	58.3	176	30.0	25.7
Feb. 28/46	243	670	24.5	89.9	—	216	32.2	26.0
Mar. 14/46	250	713	25.1	94.2	Employment Estimate — 16,600			

PETERBOROUGH -- 42

Situation becoming worse — War expansion of employment in Peterborough was general, but the companies with the largest growth were Canadian General Electric Co. Ltd., and Outboard Marine and Manufacturing Co. of Canada. Despite a drop in employment of 20 per cent in the Canadian General Electric Co. and a 25 per cent drop in the Outboard Marine and Manufacturing Co. of Canada, employment in these firms is still high above pre-war levels. Quaker Oats, Western Clock, and De Laval Co. have expanded considerably since July 1, 1943. All factories are moderately busy with the exception of meat packing plants, which are gradually laying off men because of seasonal inactivity. Shortage of materials is hindering production, and in several cases, reconversion plans. Housing is the principal problem of incoming workers. There is a good demand for bush workers, but willing and capable men are limited in numbers. While the overall demand and supply picture for women workers is well balanced, many applicants have not the skills required to fill available vacancies. Demand is heaviest for clerical workers and textile workers, while the supply of unskilled workers is slightly above demand.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 days
Jan. 31/46	337	644	12.3	83.1	43.8	279	43.3	34.5
Feb. 28/46	344	852	11.2	89.3	—	417	48.9	38.4
Mar. 14/46	333	894	6.5	90.5	Employment Estimate — 21,400			

SHELNBROOKE - 42

Situation stable — The war caused a shift of employment to the secondary iron and steel plants, whereas before the war employment was predominantly in textiles. The textile industry is unusually diversified, producing many essential consumer goods. Shortages of raw materials may, however, prevent increased production. The iron and steel industry is now engaged in civilian production. With the growth of highway construction and mining, Ingersoll Rand Co. has absorbed many former war workers, and other firms such as Mangane Steel Casting, MacKinnon Steel Co. and Autobestos (brake lining) have also been able to maintain an encouraging level of employment on civilian production. Lack of materials is proving a major detriment to employment. Julius Kayser Co. Ltd. is increasing the use of boys as apprentices to offset the shortage of female labour. Most unplaced male applicants are unskilled workers, metalworkers, construction workers, clerical, and sales workers. Demand is very high for female unskilled workers, service and clerical workers, with few applicants available. Veterans' placements are slow, because of seasonal inactivity, except for re-instatements.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 days
Jan. 31/46	330	762	8.3	95.5	59.4	209	27.4	18.5
Feb. 28/46	324	750	8.8	94.5	—	254	33.9	23.7
Mar. 14/46	254	769	10.1	94.9	Employment Estimate — 18,500			

KITCHENER-WATERLOO - 5

Situation stable — At January 1, 1946 employment in the rubber, lumber products, iron and steel, leather products and animal products (edible) industries stood above even the July 1, 1944 levels, while employment in textiles, the other major industry, remained stable. Vacancies for male and female workers are about equal but few applicants are available. The ratio of vacancies to applicants is nearly seven to one. Lack of housing accommodation is still serious. Requirements for the rubber industry have decreased and the Merchants Rubber Factory has laid off 200 workers, including 80 women. Demand for male workers is still high in all fields, but the need is more acute for unskilled workers, construction workers, woodworkers, metalworkers, and sales and clerical workers. The supply of female workers is virtually exhausted but the demand is very high. The textile industry requires 272 women but no applicants are available. Vacancies for unskilled female workers represent 23.5 per cent of the total. Demand for female sales and clerical workers is high.

Date:	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Jan. 31/46	1,160	168	23.2	61.9	26.8	46	27.4	4.2
Feb. 28/46	1,150	176	13.6	71.0	—	76	43.2	5.1
Mar. 14/46	1,247	185	9.2	71.4	Employment Estimate — 34,300			

Section 2:--AN EVALUATION OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN HAMILTON

The Hamilton local office area was classed at March 14, 1946, as being in Group III. The rating outlined in the section immediately preceding in this report defines Group III areas as those in which unemployment is considered "moderate". The table following shows the labour market situation in Hamilton.

Table I--Labour Demand and Supply in Hamilton

Date	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
May 31, 1945.....	4,905	1,102	6,007	1,824	512	2,336
Aug. 31 ".....	2,871	2,047	4,918	1,608	422	2,030
Dec. 28 ".....	816	545	1,361	3,655	813	4,468
Jan. 31, 1946.....	978	777	1,755	4,079	1,286	5,365
Feb. 28 ".....	903	798	1,701	4,915	1,334	6,249
Mar. 7 ".....	927	867	1,794	5,283	1,441	6,724
Mar. 14 ".....	1,016	863	1,879	5,126	1,371	6,497
Mar. 21 ".....	1,034	981	2,015	5,311	1,373	6,684

The current labour market situation in Hamilton is highlighted by several factors. Cold weather, material shortages, and a lack of skilled building tradesmen have held back construction work. In the steel industry demand is strong for sheet metal workers, moulders, and forging machine operators. Supply of clerical workers greatly exceeds demand. Urgent need exists for mechanical and architectural draughtsmen. Present unemployment shows no marked tendency to drop.

The following gives a detailed analysis.

Background

The present importance of Hamilton as a manufacturing and industrial city is due to its geographical position. Situated in the heart of a rich fruit and agricultural region, the city has excellent rail, road, air, and water transportation facilities, cheap power and light, low tax rates, and a large population from which to draw a supply of labour. Nearly two million Canadians live within a hundred-mile radius of Hamilton. Large markets are thus available and transportation costs to them are low. The steady growth of secondary industries

--textiles, furniture, glassware, canning--offers increasing opportunities for employment. Though the basic industry is iron and steel, these subsidiary industries form a valuable addition to the economy of Hamilton. Roughly one-third of the total "gainfully occupied" in Hamilton in 1941 were in the iron and steel industry, and total manufacturing accounted for 55 per cent of the "gainfully occupied". In all of the heavy industries, male workers far outnumber female employees; this masculinity is greatest in the iron and steel industry where ten men are employed for every woman. Only in the service trades, forming 16 per cent of the "gainfully occupied", do females outnumber males. Distribution of employment in Hamilton is shown by the following table.

Table II--Distribution of Persons Gainfully Occupied in Hamilton
(Source: 1941 Decennial Census)

Industry	Male	Female	Total	Percentage Distribution
All industries.....	51,816	18,192	70,008	100.0
Manufacturing.....	30,616	8,323	38,939	55.6
Textiles.....	2,441	3,518	5,959	8.5
Iron and its products.....	19,128	1,887	21,015	30.0
Non-ferrous metals.....	3,031	1,139	4,170	6.0
Vegetable products.....	1,711	694	2,405	3.4
All others (a).....	4,305	1,085	5,390	7.7
Construction.....	3,752	56	3,808	5.4
Transportation and communication.....	2,902	274	3,176	4.5
Trade.....	6,753	2,570	9,323	13.3
Service.....	5,128	6,296	11,424	16.3
Not stated (b).....	3,206	708	3,914	4.9

(a) Includes animal products (0.8%), wood and paper products (2.8%), non-metallic mineral products (2.1%), chemical products (2.1%), miscellaneous products (0.8%).

(b) Includes agriculture, forestry, fishing, trapping, and mining (0.9%), electricity, gas, and water products (0.9%), finance and insurance (2.2%).

Services, trade, construction, and transportation make up less than 40 per cent of the "gainfully occupied" and are all less important than in other Ontario cities with populations over 10,000. The actual proportion of "gainfully occupied" in Hamilton to total population is about 45 per cent, or equivalent to that of the average for Ontario urban centres in general. The population of the city is stable. In 1941 it was 166,337, as compared with 155,547 for 1931. Net immigration into the county of Wentworth was 13,905 between June, 1941 and April, 1944.

Employment and Wartime Expansion

Between 1939 and 1941, employment in Hamilton increased by nearly 60 per cent, subsequently rising 11 per cent to a peak in 1942. By October, 1945, it was back at the 1941 level. The following table illustrates these changes.

Table III—Employment Estimates for Hamilton, 1939-1945
(Source: 1941 Decennial Census and DBS "Employment and Payrolls")

Date	Number Employed
October, 1939.....	51,000
" 1940.....	62,700
" 1941.....	80,600
" 1942.....	90,000
" 1943.....	85,700
" 1944.....	84,900
" 1945.....	79,300

The employment estimate for Hamilton as at January 1, 1946, was 80,800, which was 10,000 more than the total "gainfully occupied" in 1941.

Hamilton had a heavier proportion of all wage and salary workers engaged in war employment than did any other major city in Canada. The percentage of war workers at July 1, 1944, was 43, while in Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, and Winnipeg, it was 34, 33, 33, and 19 per cent respectively. Figures for war employment appear in Table IV. To meet heavy war demands, the iron and steel industry of Hamilton had to expand many times, with the result that employment in this industry more than doubled during the period 1939 to 1941.

Table IV—Estimated War Employment—July 1, 1944
(Source: Research and Statistics Branch)

Classification	Number Employed
Total employment.....	79,476(a)
War employment.....	34,177
Munitions.....	4,014
Aircraft.....	1,302
Shipbuilding.....	900
Mechanical transport.....	1,204
Other metals.....	20,197
Miscellaneous.....	6,560
Civilian employment.....	45,299

(a) Figure based on a survey of establishments, thus lower than census estimate.

Canadian Westinghouse, the Steel Company of Canada, Dominion Foundries and Steel Company, National Steel Car Company, Otis-Fensom Elevator Company, Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, and International Harvester Company employed over 50 per cent of all workers engaged by local war industries. A Department of Munitions Survey, completed in January, 1944, showed that of a total of 53,850 workers in 239 plants, 27,000 were in nine major plants. This heavy concentration of the working force in a few main companies is a singular feature of employment in Hamilton, and the future state of the labour market in this city is

dependent to a great extent upon the policy followed by these companies. This policy will in turn be formulated in accordance with peacetime consumer needs.

In the case of Canadian Westinghouse, it appears that post-war employment will be maintained at a high level, for demand is heavy for all types of electrical equipment. At the present time conditions of demand and supply in the steel industry are generally in a state of flux. Until some of the stability of pre-war years returns, estimates of expected employment by these companies during the present year cannot be given with any accuracy. So far, the employment tendency has been to hire ex-servicemen and release female workers.

Gross employment of the leading Hamilton firms mentioned above, with the exception of Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, was two and one-half times greater at June 1, 1945, than at June 1, 1939. At this latter date it was 10,720. By June 1, 1944, it had risen to 22,113 and to 24,022 by June 1, 1945. Canadian Westinghouse and the Steel Company of Canada together had almost one-half of the total employment.

Labour Demand and Supply

A steady demand for labour featured the employment market in Hamilton up to the end of September, 1945. During October, however, a sudden heavy release of ex-servicemen upset this condition, and by the end of the month there were more job-seekers than jobs. During November and December, unreferred applicants continued to show a slow, steady increase. No great decrease in unfilled vacancies was apparent during this period. By the end of January unreferred applicants had increased by almost 45 per cent over the December 28 figure. During February, a "levelling off" appeared general in both applicants and vacancies, but at March 7, though vacancies had increased, the number of unreferred applicants also had markedly increased. The ratio of unreferred to unplaced applicants showed the greatest increase (12 per cent), between September 28 and November 2. The deterioration of the employment situation in Hamilton during October came in advance of the pronounced increase in unemployment that characterized the labour picture of Ontario and the Dominion as a whole during November. The peak of unemployment in Hamilton appears to have been reached at February 14. At that time there were 7,351 job-seekers, of whom 6,143 were unreferred, to 1,707 vacancies existent. Roughly three-quarters of the jobless are drawing unemployment insurance. The following table gives a breakdown of the labour demand-supply picture in Hamilton:

Table V.—Unfilled Vacancies, Unplaced Applicants,

Unreferred Applicants in Hamilton

(Source: U.I.C. 757 and 759)

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Unpl. Apps. (1)	Unr. F. Apps. (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent		
				Hamilton	Ontario	Canada
Sept. 28, 1945.....	4,015	2,548	2,100	79.3	68.8	77.4
Nov. 2 "	1,863	4,098	3,765	91.9	79.2	83.1
Nov. 30 "	1,549	4,237	3,918	92.5	84.7	88.6
Dec. 28 "	1,361	4,468	4,155	93.0	91.1	93.5
Jan. 31, 1946.....	1,592	6,137	5,894	96.0	94.9	95.3
Feb. 7 "	1,571	6,343	6,158	97.1	95.0	95.5
Feb. 14 "	1,707	7,351	6,143	83.6	95.7	95.7
Feb. 21 "	1,595	6,327	6,073	95.9	95.7	95.9
Feb. 28 "	1,704	6,310	6,011	95.3	96.1	95.9
Mar. 7 "	1,974	6,744	6,463	95.8	96.0	95.9
Mar. 14 "	1,879	6,497	6,451	99.3	95.9	96.0
Mar. 21 "	2,015	6,684	6,462	96.7	(a)	(a)

(a) Not available.

Ex-servicemen have not affected the unemployment situation in Hamilton to any great extent. Only in October did the sudden release of ex-service personnel have any marked effect. At the end of September there were 2,700 unplaced applicants. By the end of October this number had increased to 4,000. Ex-servicemen did in this instance make up the increase in unemployment, for during October 1,200 of them joined the ranks of unplaced applicants. Less than one-quarter of the total unemployed at the end of 1945 were ex-servicemen. In January and February, with an increase in the number of discharges, came a sharp upswing in the number of unemployed veterans. At February 28 they numbered 2,000, of which 1,300 were registered 15 days or more. At this date total unplaced applicants numbered 6,310 and ex-servicemen registered 15 days or more constituted but one-fifth of all these unemployed. Table VI shows this comparison, with other data.

Table VI--Unemployment Among Ex-servicemen in Hamilton
(Source: U.I.C. 5770B)

Date	Unplaced Applicants (1)	Unplaced Ex-servicemen (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent	Ex-servicemen Registered 15 Days or More
Sept. 30, 1945	2,648	271	10.2	220
Oct. 31 "	4,098	1,488	36.3	811
Nov. 30 "	4,237	1,005	23.7	814
Dec. 31 "	4,468	1,008	24.8	860
Jan. 31, 1946	6,137	1,558	25.4	1,082
Feb. 28 "	6,310	2,003	31.7	1,313

Effects of the American Steel Strike

The United States steel strike brought home to Hamilton steel manufacturers the need for making their industry less dependent on imports from the United States. The steel industry in Hamilton draws many of its supplies from the United States, and imports were halted by the strike. Hamilton plants were able to maintain production only because of reserve steel stocks, but even so production was at a much reduced level. This meant increased production costs, as the mills are able to operate efficiently only when working at near-capacity.

During the war Hamilton steel manufacturers had expanded and diversified their plants, and many steel products previously imported from the United States now are produced in Canada. However, half the steel used in the Dominion is still imported, and three-quarters of the tinplate and blackplate is also brought into the country.

Manufacturers are continuing their drive to produce steel parts previously imported. For instance, the Steel Company of Canada in Hamilton is installing a strip mill which will produce wide sheets and tinplates. This will be the Dominion's first mill capable of rolling large widths. Measures such as this will provide additional employment in Hamilton.

Duplication of the U. S. strike in Canada would have serious repercussions on employment in Hamilton, where one of every three workers is in the steel industry.

Post-War Problems

Temporary unemployment has always been a characteristic of the labour market in Hamilton, primarily because the steel industry has been often forced to release men temporarily between contracts. This condition has fostered a feeling of job insecurity amongst workers in the metal industry, and reconversion lay-offs have led to growing discontent concerning this policy. Hamilton's labour relations have always been fairly smooth, but the above factors, as well as the effect of the recent strike in the American steel industry, have imposed a considerable strain upon labour-management relations. It is possible that the American steel strike will tend to delay reconversion and thus lengthen the period of transitional unemployment and that it will also tend to stimulate wage increase demands from the workers in Canadian steel firms.

The long-run solution to Hamilton's unemployment problem lies in a speedy reconversion of the convertible segments of heavy war industry, and in expansion in the textiles, food, and other manufacturing industries. The collapse of war industry has left a surplus of skilled and semi-skilled metal-workers who will not all be absorbed into their former occupations. Downgrading in wage levels is one barrier to this absorption, as wage standards are lower in textiles and foods. Re-training may be necessary in order to facilitate the transfer of wartime skills to peace-time industry.

Housing construction is not needed as urgently in Hamilton as in other cities as the percentage of over-crowded and sub-standard dwellings is relatively low.

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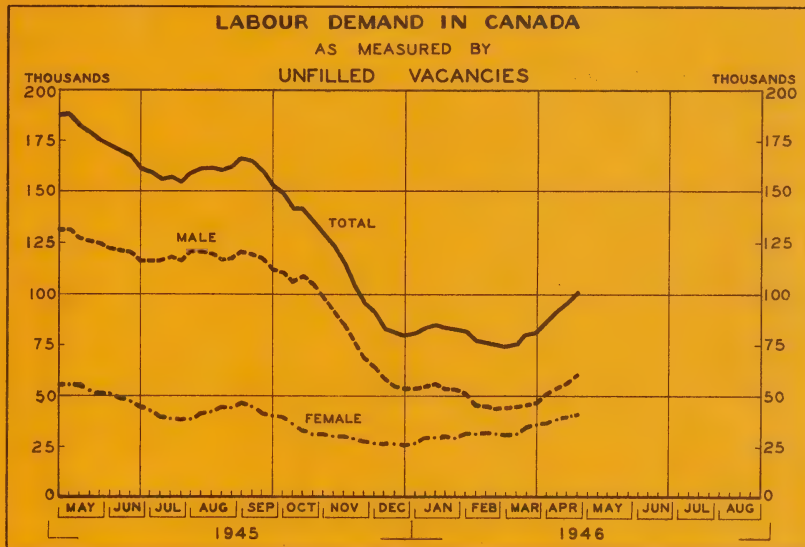
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CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

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RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH
DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

MAY 15, 1946

VOL. II NO. 4



Ottawa, June 3, 1946.

Prof. D.C. McGregor,
Department of Political Economy,
University of Toronto,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Prof. McGregor:

I am sending, under separate cover, a copy of the latest issue of our report on the Canadian Labour Market. You will recall that I mentioned this report to you some time ago.

This is one of our most comprehensive pieces of work and embodies a large part of the analysis that is done in one section of the Branch. You might like to have a copy for your library.

As you will note, the report is for confidential use only.

Very best regards,

Oswald Hall

Dr. Oswald Hall

*Accd. S. Jones.
Asked me placing in
library.*

AS WE GO TO PRESS

Unemployment in Canada declined by 23,000 during April to stand at 243,000 at May 2, 1946. In the succeeding week a further decline of 9,000 occurred as the number of unplaced applicants registered with National Employment Service offices amounted to 234,000 on May 9, 1946. Again, most of this decline was concentrated amongst male workers, with a drop of 20,000 occurring in male unplaced applicants up to May 2 and a further decline of 8,000 in the week ending May 9, 1946. It is quite likely that unemployment will continue to decline for some time, barring a large-scale strike movement in Canada.

Unfilled vacancies increased substantially during April to reach 112,000 at May 2. This represented a jump of 30,000 during the month, of which only 5,000 was in the construction industry. In the week ending May 9, 1946, there was a further increase of 3,000. The industries that have been primarily responsible for this increase in the number of listed jobs are, in addition to construction, logging (3,500), manufacturing (10,000), transportation (2,000), and trade, finance, and service (8,000).

Unplaced veterans numbered about 81,000 at the end of April as compared with 83,000 at the end of the preceding month. This represents the first decline since V-J day in the number of ex-servicemen who are without jobs. The proportion of the total unemployed that are ex-servicemen, however, rose from 31 to 43 per cent during April. In this connection, it should be remembered that as demobilization proceeds the number of veterans in the labour force becomes greater and thus it is only to be expected the portion unemployed will also loom larger. That every effort is being made to secure jobs as quickly as possible for veterans is indicated by the fact that the number unemployed 15 days or more dropped from 61,000 to 56,000 during April. The percentage of unplaced veterans who have been out of work more than 14 days, therefore, dropped from 73 to 69 per cent.

Discharges of service personnel during April of this year amounted to about 55,000 as compared with about 72,000 during March. This brought the total number of releases since the beginning of August, 1945, to approximately 563,000 persons. Forecasts still indicate that discharges will number about 53,000 in May and 20,000 in June.

Six years of war have introduced distortions into the structure of the Canadian economy which make imperative extensive shifts in the geographical distribution of the labour force. One of the major distortions is the current lack of housing which is reducing the geographical mobility of labour to a dangerous extent. There is definite evidence that in certain areas the expansion of employment, which should succeed the completion of reconversion, is being retarded due to an inability to house the consequent influx of workers. In general, such a shortage exists in all mining towns and communities as well as in certain textile towns of Quebec (Drummondville, Louiseville, Coaticook) and in such areas as Brantford, Galt, Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo, London, New Westminster, and Toronto.

A classification of Canadian labour market areas as at April 11, 1946, indicates that the unemployment situation was Acute (in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties") in six areas, and Serious (corresponding to that which occurred in 1939) in nine other areas. The labour market situation in Amherst changed from Serious to Acute during the month ending April 11.

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PART I

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Section 1:--DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

Unemployment in Canada is steadily declining as the labour market enters the fourth phase of its development since the end of the war in Europe. This phase will be featured by a marked and extensive decline in the volume of jobless workers. Indications point to continued high levels of expenditure and investment during 1946, and as a result the number of people out of work may well be halved during the coming months if the various reconversion frictions in the economy can be overcome. At April 18, 1946, 258,000 persons were hunting for jobs while 95,000 vacancies were reported by the employment service. This represents a drop of over 5,000 in unemployment and a rise of more than 3,500 in job openings from the previous week. An upsurge in employment will be the outstanding development henceforth as unemployment gradually diminishes to the frictional level. The increasing buoyancy of employment levels is demonstrated by the fact that unemployed workers have decreased substantially since the beginning of March, although more than 71,000 ex-servicemen entered the labour market in that month alone.

Shortages of materials and the difficulty of matching jobs and workers with the scarcity of key skilled men, remain the chief obstacles in the path of expanding industry. The lack of materials is being aggravated by the current strikes in the American coal and ore, lead, zinc and copper industries. The situation remains especially acute in the construction industry, despite the recent delegation of building controls to municipal authorities. The problem of matching jobs and workers is many-sided. The proportion of workers in the skilled and semi-skilled categories has increased during the last six years due to the manpower needs of war industry, but many of these workers are not soundly grounded in their trades and thus cannot meet the requirements of a peace-time labour market. At the same time, the distribution of particular types of labour is not coinciding with the needs in every area, and corresponding labour migration is hindered both by the housing situation and by the immobility of many workers. Ex-servicemen, in particular, wish to remain settled after the impermanence of their army life, and are most interested in securing work near their homes. The solution of these major sources of friction will regulate the speed of industrial expansion, and the achievement of full employment.

Conditions in the Maritime region do not reflect the optimism of the national scene. Unemployment there continues to increase, although in all other regions it is now on the decline. At April 18, unplaced applicants had risen to 30,047. Unfilled vacancies improved slightly, however, to number 5,391.

The total number of wage and salary workers in the Maritimes was 194,000 as of April 1, 1945, an increase of 75,000 since October 1, 1939. War manufacturing employed 42,000. Although the proportion of war workers was not as high as in other regions, the lack of industrial diversification is restricting re-adjustment, and explains the persistence of unemployment. A net emigration of 17,500 occurred during the war and since Nova Scotia gained over 8,000, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island together must have lost 25,500 persons. This trend will probably continue, although on a reduced scale.

Material shortages are still affecting manufacturing firms. Recurrent lay-offs, each involving 400 men, will take place at the Eastern Car Company of Trenton because of slow steel delivery. Skilled help is urgently required in the textiles industry although unskilled workers are in abundant supply. Little labour demand exists in the shipbuilding field. Shortage of fish-cutters is stimulating on-the-job training projects in fish plants. Coal mining activity has improved slightly, with mines operating at near capacity. Only first-class miners and re-instatements from the armed force are being accepted. Weather conditions as well as the severe shortage of materials have been delaying construction in most areas. Labour supply is adequate to meet demand, with the exception of bricklayers and plasterers. Forestry operations are slow pending the start of spring driving. Weather conditions have delayed activity in agriculture and labour demand is not great.

In the Quebec region, the high rate of natural increase enabled an enormous expansion of war manufacturing to take place accompanied by the net emigration of 11,000 people to other provinces. Farm counties contributed 85,000 persons to the 240,000 workers engaged in war manufacturing. These population shifts, although following the pre-war trend, were of such magnitude that a temporary reversal may occur in the immediate post-war period.

Unplaced applicants numbered 82,562 at April 18, in the Quebec region, having dropped 2,800 from the preceding week. Unfilled vacancies rose from 26,378 to 28,196 in the same period. Once temporary bottlenecks and frictions have been overcome, the diversification of Quebec's industries should permit rapid and complete re-adjustment. Housing, material and skilled labour shortages impede expansion plans in the textiles industry. A joint committee of the boot and shoe industry is laying plans for the opening of a school to train factory operatives. While reconversion and expansion in many industries is proceeding slowly because of these limiting factors, an optimistic note is created by the ever-increasing requests from firms to bring key personnel and technicians into Canada from other countries. Scarcity of skilled construction workers at present is not as severe in Quebec as elsewhere, but a shortage is feared in the future as difficulty is being experienced in recruiting trainees for the construction trades. At least 200 more could be enrolled at the Montreal school to meet the labour shortage anticipated when the supply of materials improves. The general mining outlook is bright once temporary frictions such as a scarcity of experienced underground miners and a lack of housing facilities are overcome. Tremendous development in the Ungava area is expected, and some developmental work has already commenced. The outlook, however, is for long-term expansion and it is not expected that this project will create an appreciable number of job opportunities for at least six months, and the full effects will not be felt for years.

The Ontario region alone accounted for 340,000 of the 735,000 workers employed in war manufacturing throughout the Dominion. Over 58,000 persons migrated into the province between 1941 and 1944. More than 375,000 enlisted in the armed forces. Changes of such magnitude entail considerable re-adjustments in the industrial and employment structure of the region. However, an extensive basic diversification of industry, a nearness to essential sources of supply, and convenient water and rail transportation will likely enable Ontario to overcome the difficulties caused by the war-time distortion of its economy and emerge with a high level of employment and income.

Employment in all Ontario industries registered a definite gain, and a remarkable improvement in the labour demand-supply relationship is evident. Unplaced applicants dropped to 70,544 at April 18, decline of over 2,300 in one week. During the same period unfilled vacancies rose to 38,601, a gain of 200. Activity in manufacturing is rapidly increasing. Reconversion plans in the iron and steel industries are recovering from the set-back experienced during recent American strikes and present prospects are bright. With unfilled orders mounting for every branch of production, chief obstacles are material shortages and a need for specific types of skilled labour. In both the textiles and furniture industries demand is persistent for skilled and semi-skilled workers, but in the former, low wages deter applicants, and in the latter trained workers are extremely scarce. Even if material bottlenecks are overcome in the construction industry it is almost certain that skilled workers will not be available in sufficient numbers to supply the construction projects planned for the coming year. Bricklayers, cement finishers and plasterers are sorely needed. Orders for workers in agriculture are being received in large numbers as spring seeding operations are in full progress, but the response is slow. Wages show no decrease over those offered last year, and in many cases compare well with those of semi-skilled urban workers. Forestry operations are now concerned primarily with river driving and pulpwood cutting, with the demand for pulpwood cutters being over 2,000.

Of the war-time population drift between provinces, four-fifths of the total, 125,700 persons, came from the Prairie region. More than half of these migrants were from Saskatchewan. In the entire Prairie region not more than 40,000 were engaged in war manufacturing, a comparatively small proportion of the wage earning population. Agricultural workers heavily weight the Prairie labour force. The relatively minor maladjustments in the economy and the present insatiable world demand for agricultural products simplify peace-time conversion problems in this region.

During the recent month the labour picture showed decided improvement, in this region, a decline in unemployment being accompanied by gains in jobs offered. At April 18, unplaced applicants numbered 43,214 and unfilled vacancies were 14,255. Manufacturing activity is low. Packing plant receipts have risen slightly, but a further drop is expected as the farming season advances. Employment is expanding at the Canadian Car and Foundry Company of Fort William, as the materials for their bus construction contract become available. Sash and door factories report shortages of glass and lumber, and have a tremendous backlog of orders on hand. Lay-offs continue at the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company. An extensive construction program is planned throughout the region. If material supplies are available for the number of projects planned, a drastic shortage of bricklayers and carpenters is then expected in the larger centres. Spring farming operations will shortly be in full swing throughout the area and farm orders are increasing. Although

supply has been plentiful in most areas, scarcity is expected in the future. Until flying opens, mining orders are being held up in many northern areas. Qualified coal miners are in demand. Steep Rock Iron Mines announce definite expansion of operations. In the forestry field, production of sawlogs and pulp has exceeded forecasts and prospects for greater employment appear definite.

British Columbia registered an influx of 90,000 persons during the inter-provincial wartime shift in population. Roughly 73,000 persons were engaged in war manufacturing while 85,000 were enlisted in the armed forces. The present unemployed are relatively few in number as compared with the wartime growth of the labour force, demonstrating the resiliency of the industrial structure in the Pacific region.

Current unemployment, though serious, is temporary. Unplaced applicants are declining, standing at 31,316 on April 18, while the 8,990 unfilled vacancies represented a decided gain over the previous week. Material shortages are restricting the expansion programs of many manufacturing firms and labour requirements are small. In shipbuilding, steel shortages affect employment, although workers are needed in the wooden shipbuilding industry. Demand for labour continues to increase in all branches of mining. Unsettled labour agreements in the base metal mining industry are affecting labour supply. Activity in gold and silver mining is increasing in tempo with the Yukon in the forefront. Numerous university students are intending to spend their vacations in the mines, which will help to ease the manpower situation. In the construction industry, the demand for skilled men has risen greatly. Carpenters, plasterers and cement finishers are in short supply. Skilled tradesmen are doing their own contracting instead of working for others, thus aggravating the labour shortage. Logging orders have increased 75 per cent over last month and demand will grow as the weather improves. Seasonal migration from the woods to the fishing industry is seriously affecting the skilled worker group, greatly hindering the former industry. Sawmill output is rapidly returning to normal with improved log supplies, and orders for millhands are steadily increasing.

Unemployment

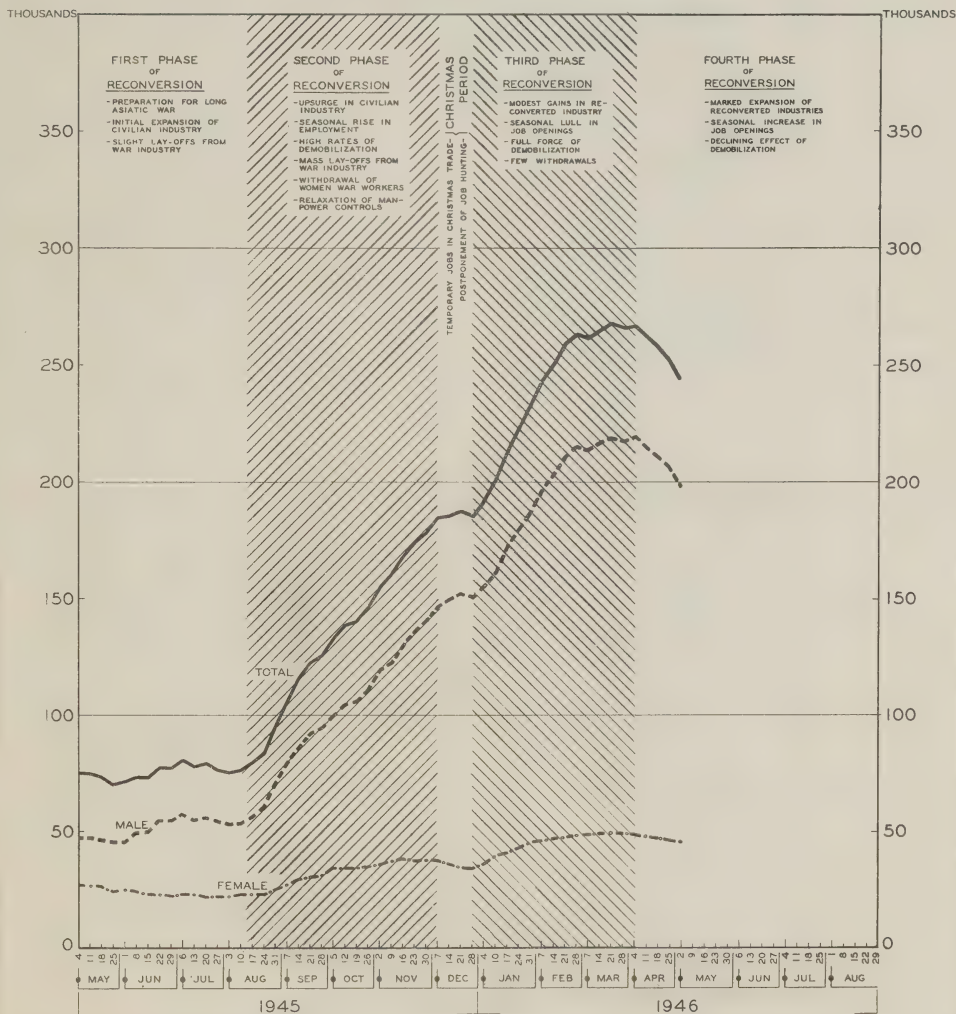
At April 18, 1946, unemployment in Canada stood at 257,683, a decline of 5,157 from the previous week. The downward movement in unplaced applicants is gaining in momentum as the seasonal upswing sets in and material shortages ease up. Improvement is greatest in the male labour field, where the unemployment problem is concentrated. Unplaced male applicants numbered 210,163-- a drop of 4,810 in one week. Female applicants declined 347, to stand at 47,520. The proportion of unreferred applicants (workers registered as unplaced who have not yet been referred to jobs) to all unplaced applicants, was 95.1 per cent at April 11, a drop of 0.9 from March 28, the first decline registered in many months.

Workers signing the live unemployment register during the last week of March totalled 154,820 as compared with 161,997 in February -- the first decline registered since June 1945 when live claims were 16,645. These workers are claiming the protection of unemployment insurance, though all will not qualify for benefits. Male live claims declined from 130,061 to 122,506, as compared with the female rise from 31,936 to 32,314. Much of this decline would be due to the effect of the U.S.A. steel strike settlement, and to the fact that some workers are exhausting their benefits. At the end of March,

UNEMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

AS MEASURED BY

UNPLACED APPLICANTS



SOURCE: ADVANCE REPORT ON LABOUR SUPPLY & DEMAND

RESEARCH & STATISTICS - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART NO. C.7-1C

46 per cent of the unemployed were seeking unemployment insurance benefits. This represents a decline of 16 per cent over the previous month. Veterans receiving out-of-work benefits at the same time numbered 47,204, raising by 18 per cent the proportion of the unemployed receiving some form of compensation. The proportionate gain in veterans' benefits and decline in civilians' live claims is attributable to continued demobilization.

Table I--Unplaced and Unreferred Applicants in Canada at Selected Dates

(Source: Form UIC 757-759)

Date	Unplaced Applicants (1)	Unreferred Applicants (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
June 1, 1945	69,906	40,838	58.4
Aug. 31 "	96,327	63,044	65.4
Sept. 28 "	128,667	99,665	77.5
Jan. 31, 1946	233,703	222,669	95.3
Feb. 28 "	263,425	252,855	96.0
Mar. 28 "	266,027	255,392	96.0
Apr. 11 "	262,681	249,854	95.1

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics survey of the labour force during February estimated it at 4,525,000 persons. Interpolation from the November survey gives a rough estimate of monthly changes in the labour force by which the changing proportions of regional unemployment can be gauged. The burden of unemployment has been rising steadily in all regions, weighing most heavily upon the Pacific, Maritimes and Quebec areas. Ontario and the Prairies remain well below the Dominion average as their economies have shown themselves easily re-adjusted to post-war conditions.

Unfilled Vacancies

The number of vacant jobs reported to Employment Offices at April 18 was 95,435. An increase of about 5,500 was registered over the preceding week as compared with the small rise in vacancies of 798 for the same period in March. Jobs for male workers were 55,559 and for females, 39,874. The ratio of available jobs to unplaced applicants is almost even for women, but for men it still remains at about one to four. Most of the increase in labour demand is for unskilled heavy workers and light factory labourers -- the termination of the United States steel strike providing an impetus to production and thus creating a need for factory workers, particularly in Ontario and Quebec. Construction jobs showed an increase of 855 over the previous week, the Quebec region reporting the sharpest expansion. The demand for metalworkers also rose, being centred chiefly in Ontario.

Table 11--Employment as a Percentage of the Labour Force, by Regions
(Source: Labour Force Survey, L.B.S. Labour Demand and Supply
Research and Statistics Branch)

Note: Labour Force and Unplaced Applicants are in Thousands

Region	November 15/45 Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	December 15/45 Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	January 15/46 Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	February 23/46 Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	April 18/46 Unpl. Apps.	%
Maritimes.....	387	12	3.1	391	14	3.6	395	16	4.1	399	22	5.5	30	7.5
Quebec.....	1,310	60	4.6	1,301	68	5.2	1,291	68	5.2	1,281	85	6.6	83	6.5
Ontario.....	1,557	54	3.5	1,558	57	3.7	1,559	60	3.8	1,560	80	5.1	71	4.6
Prairies.....	927	24	2.6	922	25	2.7	917	29	3.2	911	40	4.4	43	4.7
Pacific.....	357	19	5.3	363	24	6.6	369	27	7.3	374	33	8.8	31	8.3
Canada.....	4,538	169	3.7	4,535	188	4.1	4,531	200	4.4	4,525	260	5.7	258	5.7

The regional distribution of vacancies as compared with the distribution of the unemployed is highly favourable to Ontario, which accounts for 42 per cent of all vacancies and only 28 per cent of the unemployed. All other regions, however, report proportionately more applicants than vacancies, the situation being particularly acute in the Maritimes where six per cent of all vacancies and eleven per cent of all unemployed are located. Distribution is fairly balanced in Quebec and the Prairies, while in the Pacific region nine per cent of all the jobs available in Canada compare with twelve per cent of unplaced applicants. The factor of immobility operates strongly against a more equitable relation between regional unfilled vacancies and unplaced applicants. Many ex-servicemen want to remain settled after their transient military life and are not interested in work away from their home town. The lack of housing facilities is an important obstacle to migration into areas where jobs are available.

Table III—Regional Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants as at April 11, 1946

(Source: Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies		Unplaced Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Maritime	5,447	5.9	29,492	11.2
Quebec	26,360	28.5	83,223	31.7
Ontario	38,340	41.5	73,956	28.2
Prairie	13,537	14.7	44,160	16.8
Pacific	8,647	9.4	31,850	12.1
Canada	92,331	100.0	262,681	100.0

Occupationally, the proportionate distributions of skills required and skills available do not match. Vacant jobs are still most numerous for skilled and semi-skilled workers, next for unskilled workers, and lastly for workers in the professional and managerial, service, clerical and sales occupations—demand in these last groups being predominantly for women. The unemployed, however, are heavily concentrated in the unskilled class and in skilled and semi-skilled occupations.

Table IV—Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants
by Occupations as at April 11, 1946

(Source: Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour)

	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Canada	53,982	38,349	92,331	215,186	47,495	262,681
Professional & managerial						
clerical, sales & service	8,733	19,611	28,344	41,216	24,184	65,400
Skilled & semi-skilled ...	24,728	9,653	34,381	79,244	8,996	88,240
Unskilled (a)	20,521	9,085	29,606	94,726	14,315	109,041

(a) Includes farm hands and fishermen

Industrial Employment

Employment conditions remained stable during February. Over-all levels of industrial employment declined by only 0.3 per cent from February 1, 1946 to March 1, 1946, which was the normal pre-war reduction, and changes as great as even one per cent were not registered in any of the major industrial groups. Individual industries also exhibited relative stability. The non-durable goods section of manufacturing dropped most markedly—animal products and tobacco especially—but otherwise manufacturing industries maintained their activity, despite the adverse effect of the U.S. steel strike in the first half of February. The iron and steel industry declined by about one per cent chiefly because of the strike although this industry normally advances 3.5 per cent during this period. Large contra-seasonal construction declines are also partly attributable to this source.

Quebec was the only province where employment gains occurred, general expansion taking place in all industries but logging and service. British Columbia registered the greatest employment loss, almost entirely in the manufacturing field; while a drop in construction was chiefly responsible for the slump in Ontario.

A labour shortage is developing on Canadian farms. Manpower regulations are no longer in effect by which the Government could direct farmers back to the land, and in view of the world food shortage the labour problem is serious. Although farm wages offered in some areas complete favourably with urban wage levels, living and working conditions discourage applicants. Higher farm wages, improved rural living standards and increased farm mechanization might help to make farm work more attractive.

Activity in tourist trade during this year is expected to reach an all-time high—whether accomodation will be adequate is the major problem. Intensive competition for tourist traffic is developing between Canada, the United States, South America and Mexico. Canadian transportation and accomodation facilities should be improved to maintain this trade, which has a wide-spread effect on business activity. Directly, it stimulates retail trade, hotels, restaurants, theatres, transportation, automobile accessory firms, etc. Indirectly, such trade benefits manufacturers, wholesalers and distributors, and provides summer employment for students, another factor is that most holiday funds are spent in rural areas where other income opportunities are often limited,

Man-hours and earnings

Aggregate payrolls advanced to 135.3 at February 1, from 128.1 at the beginning of January, despite the drop registered in total employment during the period. Employment expansion in the highly-paid manufacturing industries accounts for the improvement. Per capita weekly earnings rose to \$32.03 at February 1, the chief factor responsible being the durable goods manufacturing upsurge from \$31.30 to \$35.21 following the Ford strike settlement. Weekly earnings now stand higher than the February 1, 1944 level but are slightly below the February 1, 1945 figure of \$32.18.

Average weekly hours worked in manufacturing industries were 44.0 at February 1, a marked increase over the previous month being registered in both the durable and non-durable goods sections. However, excepting January 1, this latest figure is lower than at any date in the past year. It is more

than an hour less than the 45.4 average hours registered at February 1, 1945, when overtime had been a factor of greater importance. Average hourly earnings in manufacturing at February 1 were 68.1 cents, higher than at any period since September 1, 1945. Expanding employment in the heavy manufactured goods industries contributed to this increase. In addition to the recovery from year-end declines in industrial activity, the ending of the automobile strike boosted hourly earnings during this period.

Strikes and Lockouts

The strike situation in March deteriorated considerably as labour unrest spread in the electrical and clothing fields. Strikes in existence were 28, ten more than in the previous month, while workers involved numbered 5,976 as compared with 3,532 in February. Man-working days lost quadrupled to stand at 46,068, this increase being due chiefly to the strike of 900 electrical apparatus workers in the Phillip's plants of Brockville and Montreal which alone caused the loss of 23,400 days. This strike was for a new agreement involving union shop and higher wages. Most strikes were of short duration, although the Winnipeg compositors' strike of November and the Halifax bakery workers' strike of February 11 are still in existence.

Repercussions of the troubled labour situation in the United States, where 400,000 coal miners and 250,000 other workers are currently involved in work stoppages, are being felt in Canada. The formation of a wage co-ordinating committee by the Canadian Congress of Labour is designed to seek appropriate wage adjustments for all affiliated unions. The committee states that a minimum of 200,000 Congress members will be involved in wages disputes within the next two months. Among unions engaged in wage campaigns or declaring their intention of taking such action are the United Steelworkers, 60,000 members; United Automobile Workers, 55,000; International Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, 40,000; and International Rubber Workers, 25,000.

Industrial Production

The index of industrial production receded further during January to stand at 188.2. Further reduction occurred in the operations of several industries, particularly shipbuilding, which had formerly been engaged in war production. The shortage of materials contingent upon the steel strike in the United States also contributed to the lower level of activity. Major losses in the iron and steel industry and in exports account for the decline in the index of industrial production from 240.3 a year ago to 188.2 at February 1.

The index of manufacturing production fell from 202.8 to 197.9. Declines were shown in the meatpacking, cheese, tobacco, and iron and steel industries, and in grain marketings, all losses except in iron and steel being seasonal in character. Pig iron production advanced 20 points, despite the decline in general iron and **steel activity** (which is directly due to the American steel strike), and amounted to 143,171 net tons as compared with 149,487 in the corresponding month of last year. Increased activity was evident in the forest industries, newsprint output rising to 308,382 tons. Most of the newsprint produced is for export,—the United States will absorb about 81 per cent, while Canadian users will get about 6 per cent.

Shortage of materials is still a major obstacle to industrial production. The construction industry in particular is affected, and the recent shifting of control of building projects to municipalities, is an attempt to divert scarce materials into vital housing construction. Federal public works are being kept at a minimum to conserve materials and skilled labour for more urgent

projects. Thus the Public Works Department was budgeted for only 40 million dollars this year, as compared with 28.6 million dollars last year, despite the tremendous number of projects deferred during the war. An overall steel shortage of at least 500,000 tons is expected in 1946—a gap of at least one ton in six between supply and demand for the balance of the year. It is estimated that Canada had lost approximately 200,000 tons of steel through the earlier U.S. steel mill strike. The continuation of strikes in American coal and ore mines is definitely affecting the Canadian supply picture.

DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

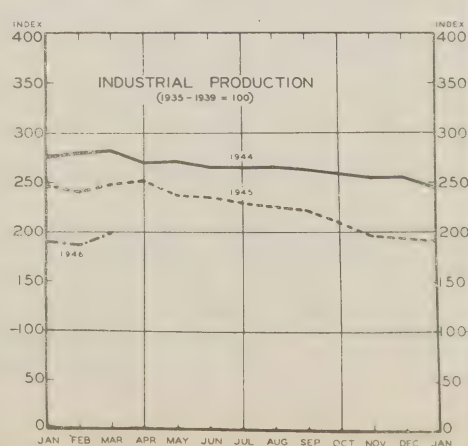
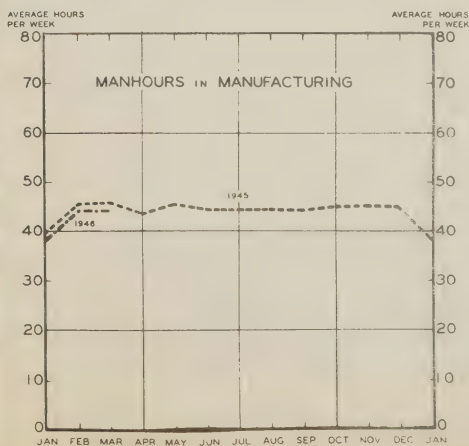
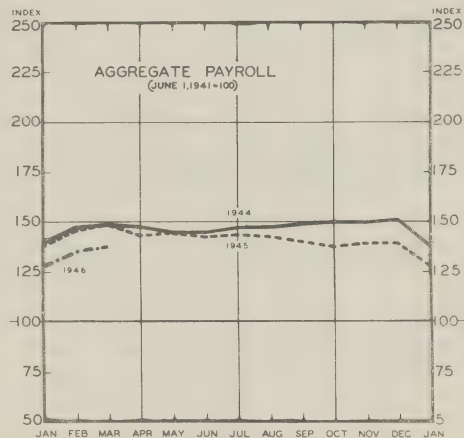
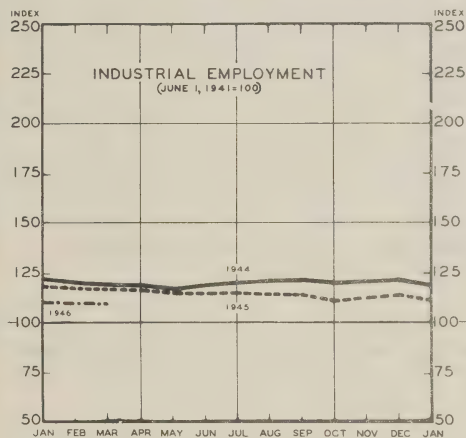
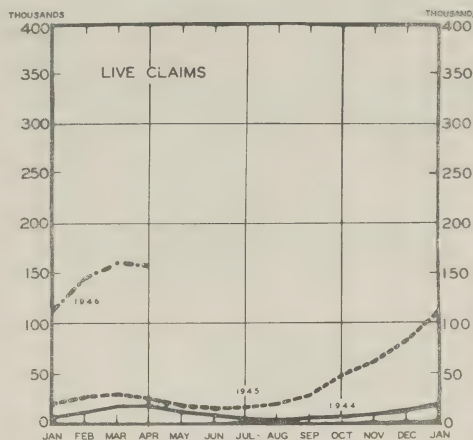
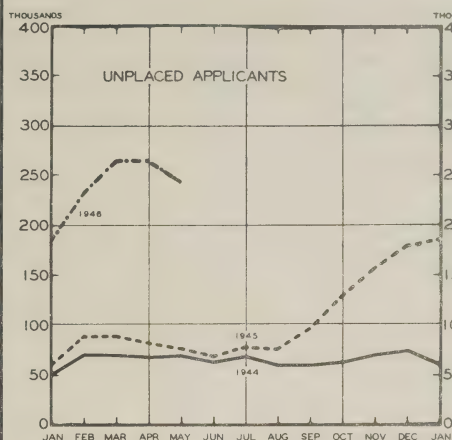


Table IV - Dominant Features of the Canadian Labour Market

Note.-All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Features	Mar. 1939	Mar. 1940	Mar. 1941	Mar. 1942	Mar. 1943	Mar. 1944	Mar. 1945	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1946
Employment(a) -									
Index (Av.1926 - 100).....	106.5	113.4	134.2	163.0	173.5	179.0	175.8	165.7	165.6
(June 1,1941 - 100).....	—	—	—	107.8	118.1	118.4	116.5	109.8	109.7
Number(thousands).....	1,142	1,216	1,439	1,748	1,914	1,919	1,885	1,776	1,775
Unemployment(b) -									
Total(thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	70.8	88.2	233.7	263.4
Male (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	43.5	56.2	188.1	215.3
Female (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	27.3	32.0	45.6	48.1
Live Claims									
Total (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	16.1	29.7	146.0	162.0
Male (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	13.3	21.7	116.5	130.1
Female (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	2.8	8.0	29.5	31.9
Earnings (a) -									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1,1941 - 100)	—	—	—	118.8	141.8	147.9	147.9	135.7	137.6
Per capita weekly earnings.	—	—	—	27.99	30.74	32.26	32.81	32.06	32.54
Cost of Living (c) -									
(Av.1935-39 - 100)	—	104.6	108.2	115.9	117.2	119.0	118.7	119.9	120.1
Man-hours and hourly earnings (a) -									
Average hours per week....	—	—	—	—	—	—	45.8	44.0	44.0
Average hourly earnings....	—	—	—	—	—	—	70.1	68.1	67.9
Strikes and lockouts (b)									
Number.....	7	12	13	18	27	14	23	18	28
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	1.6	2.0	1.2	3.8	17.0	1.7	4.8	3.5	6.0
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	10.0	15.0	3.7	21.6	30.8	2.8	8.7	12.4	46.1
Industrial Production (d) -									
(Av.1935-39 - 100).....	98.5	114.3	153.1	217.9	269.1	262.7	248.0	188.2	199.0

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

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Section 2: THE CANADIAN LABOUR FORCE

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has undertaken to provide estimates of the volume and structure of the civilian non-institutional population of Canada, 14 years of age and over, by means of a quarterly labour force survey. The primary aim of the survey is to provide regular information concerning the composition and fluctuations of the labour force. In addition, estimates will be available of the number and characteristics of people not in the labour force such as housewives, students, retired persons and people who are too old or unable to work. The estimates are based upon a one per cent random sample of households, which sample covers a universe of 8,330,000 persons. Persons in the armed forces or living in institutions are excluded. This omission amounts to about 2 per cent of the total population covered by the sample.

In analysing these estimates, the definitions of the various groups should be kept in mind. Employed persons are defined as those who had a job or business; this includes anyone who works one hour or more for pay or profit, in the survey week, and also persons who had a job but did not work because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labour dispute, or temporary lay-off (less than 30 days). Unpaid workers on farms or in business are also classed as employed although unpaid female family workers on farms are not so classed unless they did in the survey week more than 20 hours work which contributed to the operation of the farm as distinct from the household. Persons whose major activity in the survey week was looking for work, but who did not work are classified as unemployed. Also included in this category are persons who have been laid off without definite instructions to report back for work within 30 days, and those who believe that no work is available or suitable for their qualifications in their community. Everyone else is classed as a non-worker, which classification does not, of course, necessarily connote idleness.

Because of minor changes in classification, the figures for November 17, 1945, differ slightly from those given in the January issue of the "Canadian Labour Market".

Distortions in the Canadian economic structure, developed during six years of war, necessitate considerable population shifts in the immediate post-war period, both geographically and in economic classification. Large numbers of persons, particularly women and retired persons, were drawn into the labour force during the war and many of these now are reverting to their more normal status. The shift from rural to urban areas was greatly accelerated during the war, and

Table I--Estimated Civilian Non-Institutional Manpower
(Thousands of Persons 14 Years of Age and Over)
(Source: D.B.S. Labour Force Survey 2)

Population Class	November 11-17, 1945			February 17-23, 1946		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Total civilian non-institutional manpower.....	4,035	4,297	8,330	4,215	4,323	8,538
A. Labour Force.....	3,588	1,150	4,538	3,511	1,014	4,525
1. Employed.....	3,249	1,117	4,366	3,332	980	4,312
(1) Agricultural.....	889	167	1,056	985	98	1,083
Operators.....	595	16	611	646	13	659
Paid Workers.....	107	(b)	116	110	(b)	116
Unpaid Workers.....	187	142	329	229	79	308
(2) Non-agricultural.....	2,360	950	3,310	2,347	882	3,229
Paid Workers.....	1,988	854	2,842	1,971	800	2,771
Unpaid Workers.....	1,766	750	2,496	1,752	678	2,430
By private employer.....	222	124	346	219	122	341
By government (federal, provincial, municipal) Employers.....	119	10	129	121	(b)	130
Own account workers.....	237	52	289	244	46	290
Unpaid workers.....	16	34	50	11	27	38
2. Unemployed.....	159	33	172	179	34	213
B. Not in Labour Force.....	645	3,147	3,792	704	3,309	4,013
1. Permanently unable or too old to work.....	141	114	255	157	132	289
2. Keeping house.....	14	2,618	2,632	(b)	2,751	2,735
3. Going to school.....	292	285	575	327	311	638
4. Retired or voluntarily idle.....	177	122	299	192	125	317
5. Other.....	21	10	31	26	10	36

(b) Fewer than 10,000

while this is a long term secular feature in all industrial countries, the immediate post-war period will involve a short-run "back to the land" movement which will counter the secular trend. This may occur counter to the preconceived intentions of the persons involved, as limited urban opportunities make it a necessity. Large numbers of women will revert from an "unpaid family agricultural worker" status to that of "keeping house" and disappear from the labour force. Students who interrupted their studies will seek to continue their training. Discharged servicemen will continue to swell the ranks of the labour force.

For the next year at least, these spectacular shifts in the labour force will continue to dominate the scene as Canada returns to some degree of normalcy and equilibrium, at which time a pattern of growth and fluctuation will set in comparable to the pre-war period.

The first two quarterly surveys of the Labour Force give some indication of the extent of readjustment currently taking place.

Summary Highlights

The total civilian non-institutional population of Canada, 14 years of age and over, was estimated to be 8,518,000 at February 17-23, 1946, or 208,000 greater than in November. The number of men increased by 182,000 as the demobilization of the armed forces continued.

Although the civilian population increased, the labour force (the total of the employed and unemployed groups) fell by 13,000, a result of an increase of 123,000 in the males and a decrease of 136,000 in females. The rise in males was concentrated in agriculture - particularly among operators and unpaid workers. This is surprising and difficult to explain as winter is usually a period of decline in this industry, when farmers leave to seek employment elsewhere. As there was a shift out of agriculture during the war years when men left the farm to enter the armed forces or war industry, some of this present increase might be explained by the return of these farmers. In addition, farmers' sons, formerly in the services, may have returned to their homes for the winter intending to seek employment when opportunities opened up in the spring.

The number of men engaged in non-agricultural industry, on the other hand, declined from 2,360,000 to 2,347,000. Paid workers accounted for most of this decline as war activity continued to fall. Ex-servicemen, using their re-establishment credit, contributed substantially to the increase of 9,000 in the number of employers and own accounts.

The number of women in the labour force fell by 136,000. This decline was almost evenly divided between agricultural and non-agricultural industry. Unpaid workers fell by 70,000 and paid workers by 57,000. On the other hand, the number of housewives increased by some 113,000. Approximately 63,000 farm women changed their status from "unpaid agricultural workers" to "keeping house". Although some of the decline was the result of the offsetting increase in agricultural males, it can be seen that the withdrawal of a majority of farm women from the labour force was of a seasonal nature only. However, as non-agricultural paid female workers fell by 54,000, there was a definite retirement of women from employment. The number of women owning businesses and farms declined by 10,000.

At February 17-23, 1946, 4,013,000 persons were included in groups outside of the labour force, an increase of almost six per cent since November. Every group in this population class increased during the period under consideration.

The largest gain was in the number of housewives which now comprise over two-thirds of the "not in the labour force" class. The number of students increased by 11 per cent as ex-service personnel continued to enter vocational schools and universities. Eighteen thousand persons retired between these two dates.

Sex Composition

As ex-service personnel continued to be discharged, the percentage of women in the non-institutional civilian population fell by one per cent during the three months under consideration. However, women still comprise 22 per cent of the actual labour force - a drop of only three per cent since the first survey. This reduction, as mentioned previously, was partly the result of farm women leaving the labour force during the winter months. The percentage of women to total unpaid workers was almost cut in half.

Among non-agricultural paid workers the percentage of women only declined by one per cent, Government workers showing no change while workers for private employers fell; 800,000 women comprising this group compared with 854,000 in November.

In spite of the increase in the number of housewives, the percentage of males in the "not in the labour force" group gained. However, more than three persons in every four in this group are women.

Age Composition of the Labour Force

The following table shows estimates of the age distribution of the labour force. All figures are expressed in thousands.

Table II--Age Distribution of the Labour Force

Date	14-19	20-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Total
November 11-17, 1945.....	591	569	1,903	1,241	234	4,538
February 17-23, 1946.....	546	630	1,916	1,218	215	4,525
Difference.....	-45	+61	+13	-23	-19	-13

Although the Canadian labour force during the three months under consideration declined by only 13,000, its age composition altered substantially. During the war years young persons left school at an early age to seek employment. As a result of the scarcity of workers, persons eligible for retirement were retained. However, during the last three months, according to the survey, this trend was completely reversed. The number of young people aged 14-19 in the labour force declined by some 45,000 and persons over 45 by 42,000. By February, 1946, with the inflow of ex-service personnel, 42 per cent of the total labour force were between the ages of 25 and 44.

Hours of Work

The following table shows estimates of the number of hours worked per week by persons employed in Canada, by sex, for February 17-23, 1946. Figures are for thousands of persons.

Table III—Number of Hours Worked by Employed Persons

Industry Group	0(a)	1-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55 and over	Total
Agriculture								
Male	12	24	29	42	86	199	593	985
Female	(b)	10	27	20	16	10	14	98
Total	13	34	56	62	102	209	607	1,083
Non-agriculture								
Male.....	74	23	34	43	694	1,125	354	2,347
Female.....	18	28	47	56	382	275	76	882
Total.....	92	51	81	99	1,076	1,400	430	3,229
All Industries								
Male.....	86	47	63	85	780	1,324	947	3,332
Female.....	19	38	74	76	398	285	90	980
Total.....	105	85	137	161	1,178	1,609	1,037	4,312

(a) Included in the employed are those who had a job or business in the survey week but did not work because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labour dispute or temporary layoff with instructions to return to work within 30 days of layoff and who are, therefore, classed as working zero hours per week.

(b) Fewer than 10,000.

Fifty-six per cent of all persons employed in agriculture worked over 55 hours a week compared with 13 per cent in non-agricultural industry. Almost one half of the women employed in non-agricultural industry worked between 35 and 44 hours while one-third of the men worked between 45 and 54 hours. In November, 1945, 65 per cent of all persons employed worked 45 hours or more. By February this ratio had declined to 61 per cent, the result of the reduction in farm work during the winter months.

Unemployed

The following table shows the estimated distribution of the unemployed in Canada by the number of months looking for work. All figures are expressed in thousands.

Table IV—Unemployed by Number of Months Seeking Work

Date	Under 1	1-3	4-6	7-12	13-18	19-24	25 and more	Total
November 11-17, 1945.....	27	114	23	5	(b)	(b)	(b)	172
February 17-23, 1946.....	22	131	47	12	(b)	(b)	(b)	213
Difference.....	-5	+17	+24	+7				+41

(b) Fewer than 10,000.

According to the survey, at February 23, 1946, there were 213,000 persons unemployed in Canada; five per cent of the total labour force was thus seeking work. This is an increase of only 41,000 persons since November 17, 1945; 1,000 of these were women. In addition, the period of unemployment was longer: there was a decline in the percentage of unemployed who were looking for work three months or under. The number of persons out of work four to six months increased from 23,000 to 27,000; persons out of work from six months to a year increased from 5,000 to 12,000. This development is more disturbing than the general increase in unemployment which can be regarded as temporarily unavoidable during the period of mass discharges from the services. The increase in the numbers unemployed longer than three months points to the danger of a "hard core" of unemployment. Lack of match between jobs and jobless, both geographically and vocationally, is producing a substantial level of frictional unemployment which may become chronic. Older workers and the unskilled are finding it increasingly difficult to get placed. Vocational training and the easing of the housing shortage should be instrumental in easing this situation.

Unplaced applicants as reported by the National Employment Service numbered approximately 260,000 at the survey date; an increase of 93,000 for the same period that unemployment as reported by the survey shows an increase of only 41,000. This discrepancy of 47,000 occurs almost entirely in the male unemployed, and can perhaps be accounted for largely by differences in definition. In the survey, employment has the priority in classification in the case of a person with dual status. Some workers, therefore, may have been classified as employed and still be registered as unplaced applicants. The following are categories where sources of discrepancy occur, and in which a more complete differentiation might serve to reconcile the two estimates.

The survey indicates that there were 12,000 male non-agricultural workers classified as working zero hours per week because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labour dispute or temporary lay-off with instructions to return within 30 days. Some of this group, particularly the latter two segments, might be registered as unplaced applicants.

There were 53,000 male non-agricultural workers classified as working between 1 and 24 hours per week. Some of these persons would be entitled to unemployment insurance benefits and many would certainly be registered with employment offices, while others who, though not entitled to draw benefits, might have as their major activity seeking a full-time job, and also be registered as an unplaced applicant. If a worker has a regular job, working 24 hours or more, he is not counted as an unplaced applicant even if he is registered as looking for another job.

The labour force survey indicates that unpaid male family workers on farms increased from 187,000 to 229,000 between the first and second survey dates. That this should occur contra-seasonally suggests that substantial numbers of ex-servicemen and former workers in war industry have returned to the farm. While it is normal to expect that in the immediate post-war period a considerable flow back to the farm will occur as a short-run feature of the labour force, it is reasonable to expect that a number of these persons returned to their homes on the farm, pending the finding of a job, and thus may be registered with their local office, maintaining contact by occasional visits or correspondence.

It can be seen that the numbers involved are substantial enough to account for the entire discrepancy.

Section 3:—OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The administrative problem of maintaining a high and stable level of employment and income is many-sided. Not only must the total volume of expenditure be maintained at a high level, but the constituents of this total expenditure must be carefully analysed in order to anticipate probable over-all trends. This is particularly true of private expenditure on both consumption and investment, the largest portion of total expenditure. At the same time, public and foreign expenditure must also be analysed and influenced in order that movements in the volume of private expenditure can be supplemented.

One of the greatest difficulties facing administrative policies aimed at the maintenance of a high and stable level of employment and income is the constant risk of inflation that is involved. This danger arises out of the fact that the productive resources of any country are not mobile. Certain rigidities are inherent in the modern economic structure (i.e., the importance of fixed capital, the concentration of production in the hands of a few producers, the development of cartels, trusts and labour unions), and these are becoming increasingly significant. One of the greatest of the rigidities, however, is due to the fact that labour is, to a high degree, immobile. The total labour force of a country consists of an aggregate of skills and experience any one of which cannot be shifted at will from one occupation to another, or from one area to another. As a matter of fact, the danger that shortages of a particular type of labour will lead to inflationary price rises is considerably greater than the danger that a shortage of particular types of machinery will do so.

It is in combating these immobile characteristics of labour that an employment service is destined to play such a vital role. In the labour market, as in any market, the free interplay of demand and supply depends upon a full knowledge of existing market conditions, and the ability to take advantage of this knowledge. It is one of the important functions of an employment service to organize the labour market by making available to all its participants information on the number and types of jobs or workers available, by facilitating the geographical movement of labour in every possible manner, by directing the retraining of workers as skilled needs change, and by directing young workers into expanding and remunerative fields of employment. In so doing, an employment service can become indispensable in helping to overcome the "bottlenecks" which are bound to develop out of any administrative policy aimed at a high and stable level of employment, and which so easily lead to inflation and consequent depression.

During March, labour market conditions, as reflected in the operations of the National Employment Service, showed a marked improvement. An appreciable rise in the job openings reported during this month resulted in an upward movement in the number of referrals and placements effected. In British Columbia, particularly, placement activity increased. Unemployment across Canada increased only one per cent during the month, although there were approximately the same number of applicants registering per week in March as in February. Separations increased during March, but to a lesser extent than during the same month in 1945. Unemployment insurance claims fell, easing somewhat the work-load placed on the National Employment Service from this source.

Vacancies Notified

At the beginning of March, there were 73,837 (42,414 male and 31,423 female) non-agricultural jobs on file at Employment Service offices across Canada. The unusually early spring, together with the increased activity as industry completes reconversion, resulted in a considerable stepping-up in employment opportunities reported during March. There were approximately 31,000 non-agricultural vacancies listed per week in this month as compared with 26,000 in February. This increase (19 per cent) is particularly encouraging when compared with the percentage rise during the same period in previous years. In March, 1945, vacancies notified increased by 10 per cent, in 1944 by 5 per cent, and in 1943 by 6 per cent. During the war years, however, the normal seasonal fluctuations in labour requirements were mitigated to some extent by the rigid labour controls on civilian industry. Trends in labour demand during the war years, therefore, tended to reflect requirements of war industry rather than the normal seasonal pattern. The following table shows the average weekly vacancies notified in non-agricultural industries, by province, for March and February, 1946, with the percentage rise during the month.

Table I--Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified, by Province, during February and March, 1946 with Actual and Percentage Changes

Province	(Source: Form UIC 751B)		Change During Month	
	Average Weekly Vacancies March, 1946	February 1946	Actual	Percentage
Canada	31,379	26,474	4,905	19
Prince Edward Island	110	76	34	45
Nova Scotia	928	865	63	7
New Brunswick	702	849	-147	-17
Quebec	6,879	6,420	459	7
Ontario	14,305	11,491	2,814	24
Manitoba	1,558	1,247	311	25
Saskatchewan	1,129	764	365	48
Alberta	1,650	1,219	431	35
British Columbia ..	4,118	3,543	575	16

A seasonal increase in labour requirements in the construction and service industries was evident throughout Canada, particularly in the Ontario and Prairie provinces. A counterbalancing factor was the early spring break-up in many sections of the country, which resulted in a sharp curtailment in the

labour needs of the logging industry. In Quebec, particularly, the labour requirements of the logging camps fell drastically during March, but there was a decided upswing in the needs of the manufacturing industries. Little improvement, however, was evident in the labour situation of the Maritime provinces with New Brunswick reporting a drop of 17 per cent in the number of job openings being reported.

Applicants Registered

There were approximately 263,000 (215,000 male and 48,000 female) applicants seeking work at the Employment Service at the beginning of March. During the month, about 38,000 applicants registered per week with over 30 per cent of this total being ex-service personnel. The number of job seekers during March last year was 12 per cent higher than in 1946. Thus, despite the continued influx of ex-servicemen into the labour market, there have been fewer applicants registering for work in March, 1946, than in the comparative period in 1945. The fact that considerably fewer people left their jobs during the first three months of 1946 as compared with the same period in 1945, together with the gradual withdrawal of workers from the labour force since the war's end, has reduced the number of applicants presently seeking employment.

Until September, vacancies notified, during each month remained, on the whole, slightly in excess of the number of applicants registering for employment in the same period. Since that time, there have been many more job-seekers entering the Employment Service than there were vacancies reported. By the middle of October, jobs on file were equal in number to the workers seeking employment. In November, however, the gap between labour demand and supply widened rapidly, with jobs reported totalling only 68 per cent of the number of applicants seeking work during that month. This percentage remained practically unchanged until March when there were 83 vacancies notified for every 100 applicants registered. Undoubtedly, as seasonal and post-reconversion activity increases during the next few months, labour demand and supply will tend to approximate each other in aggregate, labour shortages will become more extensive. The following table presents the distribution of non-agricultural vacancies notified and applicants registered during March, by province.

Table II—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified
And Applicants Registered, by Province, during March, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies Notified		Average Weekly Applicants Registered	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Canada	31,379	100	37,875	100
Maritime Provinces	1,740	6	3,427	9
Quebec	6,879	22	10,007	26
Ontario	14,305	45	13,452	36
Prairie Provinces	4,337	14	6,159	16
British Columbia	4,118	13	4,830	13

The above table reveals that Ontario is decidedly in the most favourable position in this respect. Forty-five per cent of the jobs reported across Canada during March were in that province, whereas only 36 per cent of the applicants registered in Canada were seeking work in Ontario. The labour situation in the Maritime provinces, however, grew worse during March; fewer jobs were reported but applicants registered in increasing numbers during the month. Consequently, the general rise in job opportunities and the dropping off in the number of applicants seeking work expected during the next few months will probably result in areas of labour shortages while unemployment persists in others.

Referrals

Referrals rose by 12 per cent during March, to bring the average weekly total to approximately 22,000. This increase followed the rise in vacancies notified, reflecting the additional activity in the construction, trade, and service industries. The average weekly referrals in industry other than agriculture, is presented, by months, since January, 1945, in Table III.

Table III—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Referrals, by Sex,
From January, 1945, to March, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Month	Male	Female	Total
January, 1945	27,458	16,555	44,013
February "	25,368	16,321	41,689
March "	24,862	15,819	40,681
April "	28,009	15,709	43,718
May "	26,804	12,155	38,959
June "	30,499	9,755	40,254
July "	28,217	7,885	36,102
August "	29,431	7,943	37,374
September "	31,653	9,303	40,956
October "	31,197	8,924	40,121
November "	28,238	8,669	36,907
December "	16,198	5,448	21,646
January, 1946	12,949	6,795	19,744
February "	12,924	6,725	19,649
March "	14,547	7,400	21,947

The main factor influencing the proportion of applicants that are referred is the type and number of job opportunities available at the Employment Service. This is true, particularly at this time, since with the present large supply of workers, suitable applicants are more easily found than was the case during the war. In order to determine the total number of jobs available in any month to which workers can be referred, unfilled vacancies at the beginning of the month must be added to vacancies notified during the same month. During October, 1945, labour demand in civilian industry still remained high, and for every 100 jobs available during that month, there were 52 applicants referred to jobs. During the next few months, however, approximately one-third of the jobs on file at employment offices were for the logging camps and many applicants were not

interested in this type of work. Consequently the ratio fell, reaching a low point of 42 referrals to every 100 jobs available in February. In March, as both the quantity and type of jobs improved, the ratio rose slightly.

Placements

The downward trend in the number of placements effected since September was reversed during March. Average weekly placements during March were 12 per cent higher than in February with the rate of increase for male placements slightly greater than that for female workers. During a similar period in 1944 and 1945, placement activity showed a net decline. The greatest improvement in March, 1946, took place in British Columbia, with placements increasing 20 per cent in that province during the month. Placements rose in the industries reporting additional employment opportunities, namely, construction, trade and service industries. The following table presents the average weekly non-agricultural placements, by sex, since the beginning of 1945.

Table IV—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Placements
By Sex, from January, 1945, to March, 1946

Month	Male	Female	Total
January, 1945	19,880	10,292	30,172
February "	18,342	11,349	29,691
March "	17,825	11,122	28,947
April "	21,072	10,900	31,972
May "	20,094	9,228	29,322
June "	22,874	7,161	30,035
July "	21,396	5,469	26,865
August "	20,766	5,093	25,859
September "	24,240	5,972	30,212
October "	23,621	5,379	29,000
November "	22,823	5,306	28,129
December "	13,765	3,703	17,468
January, 1946	9,177	3,763	12,940
February "	8,643	3,816	12,459
March "	9,812	4,159	13,971

During March, out of every 100 referrals effected, there were 64 placements made. This ratio has remained practically constant since January, but it is considerably less than peak reported in December when 81 per cent of the referrals made by the Employment Service resulted in placements. The selectivity for both workers and employers, together with the careful screening of applicants by the Employment Service, tended to reduce this ratio during the past three months. It is interesting that the ratio of placements to referrals is markedly higher than that reported by the United States Employment Service. During January, the latest available date for placement activity in United States, the ratio reported was 43 placements per 100 referrals whereas in Canada 66 placements resulted from the same number of referrals.

There were 250 Executive and Professional applicants placed during the first four weeks in March. During the same period, 1,064 workers sought this

type of work. Many applicants cannot meet the exacting standards requested by employers, while, on the other hand, some offices report that the salaries offered are not consistent with the qualifications required. Considerably more referrals are required to effect a placement in the Executive and Professional division than in general placement activity. During March, the ratio of placements to referrals in Executive and Professional offices was 49 to 100 as compared with 64 to 100 in general placement activity. Undoubtedly, both applicants and employers tend to be more selective in the higher salary brackets. At March 28, there were 1,020 openings reported by the Executive and Professional offices, with unplaced applicants at that date totalling 1,758.

Placement of handicapped workers during the period February 15 to March 14 totalled 845 (604 male and 241 female). Over one-third of the applicants placed were ex-service personnel. Unplaced handicapped workers have been steadily increasing since November 14 and at March 14 totalled 7,180. Placement of handicapped workers is largely dependent upon the co-operation of employers and field men have reported that firms are endeavouring to use handicapped workers whenever and wherever possible.

Engagements Without Referral

Engagements without referral have been increasing since the beginning of January. In March, there were nearly 20,000 engagements without referral each week in non-agricultural industries. In British Columbia, such engagements increased by approximately 25 per cent during March, due mainly to the larger number of male workers finding jobs on their own. The following table gives the average weekly non-agricultural engagements without referral, by province, and by sex, for March, 1946.

Table V—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Engagements Without Referral,
By Sex, and by Province, During March, 1946

Province.....	Male	Female	Total
Canada	13,976	5,630	19,606
Prince Edward Island	8	5	13
Nova Scotia	373	154	527
New Brunswick	469	126	595
Quebec	4,303	1,929	6,232
Ontario	4,865	2,075	6,940
Manitoba	597	363	960
Saskatchewan	400	199	599
Alberta	682	250	932
British Columbia	2,279	529	2,808

During 1946, workers have been getting more jobs on their own than through the Employment Service. In March, placements were approximately 70 per cent of the number of engagements without referral. Ex-service personnel are probably using every means at their disposal to get work and many of the engagements without referral have resulted from jobs secured by following up personal contacts made in the services. Pre-discharge interviews of servicemen from July 1, 1944, to December, 1945, indicate that 13 per cent of discharged

personnel have a new job available. This suggests that about 2,000 such engagements are being made every week by ex-servicemen without the aid of the Employment Service. This situation is undoubtedly temporary, and as jobs become more plentiful at the Employment Service, placements will likely rise sharply.

Separations

Separations increased by 12 per cent during the month to total approximately 31,000 per week in March. This rise, however, was considerably less than during the comparative period in 1945, when separations increased by 19 per cent to reach about 37,000 a week. The rise in separations took place mainly in industries which hired agricultural workers during their off-season; the logging industry reported a 57 per cent increase during March and separations increased by 41 per cent in the mining industry.

During January, the latest available date for employment statistics, 4.5 per cent of the total number of wage and salary workers voluntarily or involuntarily quit their jobs. This rate of separation was considerably higher in the manufacturing industries (5.2), while the coal mining industry reported only 2.4 separations for every 100 workers employed. The comparatively high rate of separation in the manufacturing industry was due probably to lay-offs rather than the voluntary leaving of jobs; the existing shortages of materials became even more serious as a result of the prolonged strike situation across the border. In the coal mining industry, however, additional workers are still needed and lay-offs would thus not be occurring. An additional influence tending to reduce the rate of separation in the coal mining industry is the fact that the coal mines are situated principally in the Maritime and Prairie provinces where alternative employment opportunities at this time are at a very low level.

Table VI—Non-agricultural Vacancies Notified as Reported by the
National Employment Service, March, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Vacancies During Month	Average Weekly Vacancies		
		Number	% Change From	
			Feb. 1946	Mar. 1945
All industries.....	125,516	31,379	18.5	-35.4
Logging.....	14,874	3,719	8.1	9.0
Mining.....	2,889	722	2.3	-48.4
Manufacturing.....	40,294	10,073	14.1	-48.8
Food and kindred products.....	4,608	1,152	16.6	-52.6
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	8,528	2,132	19.8	-34.3
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	4,033	1,008	18.6	-41.6
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	3,239	810	0.5	-41.1
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,481	370	5.1	-60.8
Products of petroleum and coal.....	159	40	-43.7	-78.6
Rubber goods.....	1,393	348	62.6	-25.2
Leather and products.....	1,269	317	-16.8	-41.8
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,260	315	45.2	-31.2
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,757	939	-1.1	-68.1
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,406	352	-3.0	-59.8
Machinery.....	3,713	928	13.6	-32.8
Transportation equipment.....	3,748	937	46.0	-62.5
Miscellaneous.....	1,700	425	6.0	-27.9
Construction.....	14,455	3,614	89.8	-5.5
Transportation and storage.....	5,766	1,441	-16.2	-61.2
Other public utilities.....	1,414	354	-5.1	-31.4
Trade.....	14,105	3,526	18.0	-37.9
Finance and insurance.....	1,949	487	8.8	-36.3
Public and professional service.....	7,348	1,837	9.7	-28.2
Other service.....	22,422	5,606	30.3	-24.9

Table VII—Non-agricultural Referrals as Reported by the
National Employment Service, March, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Refer- rals During Month	Average Weekly Referrals		
		Number	% Change From	
			Feb. 1946	Mar. 1945
All industries.....	87,786	21,947	11.7	-46.1
Logging.....	4,050	1,013	-26.7	-58.7
Mining.....	2,519	630	10.7	-4.7
Manufacturing.....	28,700	7,175	7.5	-55.5
Food & kindred products.....	3,595	899	13.9	-57.5
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	4,701	1,175	0.3	-50.5
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	2,952	738	5.0	-44.4
Pulp and paper products and printing....	2,209	552	-12.5	-49.6
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,350	338	3.4	-66.3
Products of petroleum and coal.....	233	58	-4.9	-52.1
Rubber goods.....	644	161	10.3	-46.0
Leather and products.....	861	215	4.9	-49.1
Stone, clay and glass products.....	999	250	33.0	-27.8
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,163	791	-3.0	-67.9
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,099	275	12.2	-57.7
Machinery.....	2,835	709	10.6	-40.1
Transportation equipment.....	2,806	701	53.4	-68.8
Miscellaneous.....	1,253	313	5.0	-35.9
Construction.....	10,717	2,679	82.1	-1.1
Transportation and storage.....	3,848	962	-25.4	-68.1
Other public utilities.....	1,153	288	19.5	-31.6
Trade.....	13,066	3,267	13.7	-45.7
Finance and insurance.....	1,651	413	3.3	-49.0
Public and professional service.....	5,705	1,426	12.0	-34.7
Other service.....	16,377	4,094	17.9	-34.9

Table VIII -- Non-agricultural Placements as Reported by the
National Employment Service, March, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Place- ments During Month	Average Weekly Placements		
		Number	% Change From	
			Feb., 1946	Mar., 1945
All Industries.....	55,886	13,971	12.1	-51.7
Logging.....	3,584	896	-17.0	-61.1
Mining.....	1,685	421	8.5	-12.3
Manufacturing.....	18,084	4,521	9.4	-60.2
Food and kindred products.....	2,172	543	23.7	-61.1
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	2,850	713	3.2	-60.1
Lumber and finished lumber products....	2,111	528	9.5	-46.1
Pulp and paper products and printing...	1,386	347	-16.4	-55.5
Chemicals and allied products.....	745	186	12.0	-72.2
Products of petroleum and coal.....	109	27	-18.2	-64.0
Rubber goods.....	444	111	16.8	-52.0
Leather and products.....	491	123	11.8	-59.7
Stone, clay and glass products.....	620	155	52.0	-32.6
Iron and steel and their products.....	1,931	483	-14.1	-70.9
Non-ferrous metals.....	702	175	22.4	-68.6
Machinery.....	1,574	393	1.8	-49.7
Transportation equipment.....	2,262	565	74.9	-64.0
Miscellaneous.....	687	172	- 8.0	-49.9
Construction.....	7,270	1,817	69.5	-11.1
Transportation and storage.....	2,736	684	-17.2	-67.9
Other public utilities.....	726	182	22.1	-24.2
Trade.....	6,869	1,717	10.6	-56.5
Finance and insurance.....	763	192	- 5.0	-61.8
Public and professional service.....	3,803	951	9.1	-40.4
Other service.....	10,361	2,590	18.6	-40.5

Table IX — Non-agricultural Engagements Without Referral as Reported
by the National Employment Service, March, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Engage- ments During Month	Average Weekly Engagements		
		Number	% Change From	
			Feb. 1946	Mar. 1945
All industries.....	78,424	19,606	2.2	279.4
Logging.....	6,744	1,686	-31.2	107.4
Mining.....	2,598	649	20.9	500.9
Manufacturing.....	29,280	7,320	0.8	340.7
Food and kindred products.....	3,579	895	11.5	232.7
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	5,438	1,359	-12.4	749.4
Lumber and finished lumber products....	2,769	697	- 7.9	132.3
Pulp and paper products and printing....	2,568	642	3.5	328.0
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,202	301	3.3	250.0
Products of petroleum and coal.....	281	70	55.6	483.3
Rubber goods.....	682	171	- 1.7	2,037.5
Leather and products.....	1,247	312	- 9.6	477.8
Stone, clay and glass products.....	819	205	10.2	425.6
Iron and steel and their products.....	2,457	614	- 5.8	276.7
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,049	262	0.0	773.3
Machinery.....	2,467	617	0.5	634.5
Transportation equipment.....	3,528	882	26.5	230.3
Miscellaneous.....	1,174	293	6.2	651.3
Construction.....	7,762	1,941	50.1	437.7
Transportation and storage.....	4,984	1,246	- 8.9	208.4
Other public utilities.....	1,217	304	10.1	546.8
Trade.....	9,838	2,460	14.6	249.4
Finance and insurance.....	1,391	348	- 9.1	262.5
Public and professional service.....	5,998	1,499	1.8	265.6
Other service.....	8,612	2,153	7.6	281.7

Table X -- Non-agricultural Separations as Reported by the
National Employment Service, March, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Separ- ations During Month	Average Weekly Separations		
		Number	% Change From	
			Feb. 1946	Mar. 1945
All industries	123,850	30,962	12.2	-17.3
Logging.....	16,765	4,191	57.2	-42.5
Mining.....	3,793	943	40.9	2.0
Manufacturing.....	50,791	12,698	3.8	-17.9
Food and kindred products.....	7,579	1,895	- 4.0	-17.4
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	8,182	2,046	6.6	10.3
Lumber and finished lumber products...	4,497	1,124	23.0	-21.2
Pulp and paper products and printing..	3,760	940	14.4	15.2
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,905	476	-18.4	-41.2
Products of petroleum and coal.....	380	95	8.0	-45.4
Rubber goods.....	1,188	297	23.2	- 4.8
Leather and products.....	1,630	408	1.2	21.4
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,204	301	18.5	25.9
Iron and steel and their products....	5,631	1,408	8.5	-39.0
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,464	366	10.2	-26.1
Machinery.....	5,340	1,335	27.4	19.6
Transportation equipment.....	6,382	1,595	-17.6	-46.0
Miscellaneous.....	1,649	412	- 1.2	21.2
Construction.....	10,197	2,549	- 8.0	29.9
Transportation and storage.....	9,221	2,305	20.5	-14.1
Other public utilities.....	1,291	323	11.8	28.7
Trade.....	12,736	3,184	8.4	- 6.5
Finance and insurance.....	1,644	411	2.2	- 3.1
Public and professional service.....	7,521	1,880	29.2	- 3.1
Other service.....	9,891	2,473	9.1	-18.5

PART II

DEMOBILIZATION AND RECONVERSION

Section I:--ACTIVITIES OF EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

The high rate of demobilization continued in March, with 71,000 service personnel discharged during the month. This rapid influx into the labour market is more than offsetting the slight increase in manpower requirements. As a result, the upward trend in unemployment has been maintained.

In March more ex-servicemen made application for employment and more were placed by National Employment Service offices than in the previous month. Some increase was also apparent in the number of ex-servicemen being reinstated in civil employment.

Unemployment among ex-service personnel increased substantially during March, and at the end of the month a greater percentage of those unemployed had been registered for 15 days or more. The number of ex-service personnel receiving out-of-work benefits has risen sharply. Little change is evident in the occupational classification of unemployed ex-servicemen.

Advance reports for the month of April indicate that with progress in reconversion, re-inforced by the seasonal upswing, a substantial improvement in job opportunities and consequent easing of unemployment among ex-servicemen is occurring. March may well prove to be the high water-mark in unemployment among ex-service personnel in spite of the large number of discharges that remain to be completed.

Discharges

The high rate of demobilization of the last few months continued during March. Every effort is being made to release as soon as possible, all personnel whose services are not required. Since the beginning of the war, 808,000 persons have been discharged. At March 31, the effective strength of the armed forces was approximately 192,000. This figure excludes those missing, on extended leave and those seconded. Table I shows discharges, by months, January, 1945 to March, 1946 inclusive.

Table I—Number Discharged from Armed Forces, by Months
January, 1945 to March, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence)

Month	Navy	Army	Air Force	Total
January, 1945	588	3,320	7,850	11,758
February "	592	3,654	8,487	12,733
March "	672	3,249	3,791	7,712
April "	772	4,312	3,236	8,320
May "	657	6,119	3,023	9,799
June "	1,679	10,602	3,040	15,321
July "	3,139	15,393	5,996	24,528
August "	6,679	22,184	8,503	37,366
September "	9,878	34,093	30,773	74,744
October "	14,931	45,994	32,042	92,967
November "	15,712	35,813	13,873	65,398
December "	7,668	22,118	8,454	38,240
January, 1946	7,560	40,735	8,554	56,849
February "	7,552	48,665	9,018 ^(a)	65,235 ^(a)
March "	6,261 ^(a)	56,512	8,641 ^(a)	71,414 ^(a)

(a) Subject to revision

Applications for Employment in National Employment Service Offices

From August 1, 1945 to March 31, 1946, approximately 245,000 ex-servicemen have registered with the National Employment Service offices. This figure includes only those registering for the first time since discharge and represents 49 per cent of all discharges during this period.

In March, 53,169 ex-service personnel made application for employment as compared with 46,434 in the previous month. One-third of those applying in March had been previously employed since discharge; these persons are considered "revivals" by the employment offices. The number of persons classified as "revivals" continues at the same level as in previous months in spite of the steadily growing number of ex-service personnel using the National Employment Service offices. With a limited number of job opportunities, those persons already employed are not likely to seek other work at the present time. Table II shows the total number of discharges and applications of World War II ex-servicemen, by months, August, 1945 to March, 1946, inclusive.

Table II—Discharges from Armed Forces and Applications of World War II Dischargees, by Months, August, 1945 to March, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form UIC 7550B)

Month	Discharges	Applications	
		New Applicants	Revivals
August, 1945	37,366	23,950	10,616
September "	74,744	31,351	12,092
October "	92,967	43,586	18,546
November "	65,398	37,726	20,379
December "	38,240	24,934	16,133
January, 1946	56,849	27,641	18,568
February "	65,235	25,025	17,075
March "	71,414	30,400	18,271

Placements

National Employment Service offices placed 21,228 ex-servicemen in jobs during March. The slight increase in the number of job opportunities is reflected in a larger number of placements. In March, 4,400 more ex-service personnel were placed than in the previous month. In addition to those placed 3,800 had been referred to specific jobs but notification as to their placement or rejection by employers had not been received. In the larger centres, special placement officers are endeavouring to place handicapped persons in suitable employment. From February 15 to March 14 there were 314 handicapped ex-service personnel placed in jobs by the employment offices.

The seasonal increase in labour requirements has resulted in an increase in the ratio of placements to applications for both ex-servicemen and civilians. The ratio for ex-service personnel, however, is still considerably higher than the corresponding ratio for other than ex-servicemen. During March, 39 ex-servicemen were placed for every 100 applications, while for other than ex-servicemen only 33 placements were made for each 100 applications. Data on application and placements are shown in Table III.

Table III—Applications and Placements of Ex-Servicemen, August, 1945 to March, 1946 with Male Civilian Comparisons

(Source: Form UIC 7550B and Form UIC 751B)

Month	Average Weekly		Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent	Male Civilian Equivalent of (3) Per cent
	Total Ex-Servicemen Applications (1)	Total Ex-Servicemen Placements (2)		
			(3)	
August, 1945	9,001	5,030	55.9	58.9
September "	11,579	6,755	58.3	53.7
October "	15,625	8,506	54.4	52.8
November "	15,113	8,811	58.3	43.1
December "	10,441	5,878	56.3	34.2
January, 1946	11,395	4,207	36.9	25.8
February "	11,287	4,032	35.7	26.5
March "	11,655	4,590	39.4	33.2

Reinstatements

More ex-service personnel were reinstated in civil employment in March than in any previous month. During March, 19,134 ex-servicemen returned to their pre-war jobs as compared with 17,365 in February. Since August 1, 1945, approximately 114,000 have been reinstated or 23 per cent of the total number of discharges for that period. According to pre-discharge interviewer about 27 per cent expected to be reinstated. However, as ex-servicemen are allowed three months in which to apply, some do not seek reinstatement immediately upon discharge. Table IV shows cumulative discharges and reinstatements, monthly, August, 1945 to March, 1946.

Table IV—Cumulative Discharges and Reinstatements,
Monthly, August, 1945 to March, 1946.

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form UIC 8212)

Date	Cumulative Discharges since Aug. 1, 1945 (1)	Cumulative Reinstatements since Aug. 1, 1945 (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per cent
Aug. 31, 1945	37,366	2,828	7.6
Sept. 30 "	112,110	12,264	10.9
Oct. 31 "	205,077	30,307	14.8
Nov. 30 "	270,475	48,017	17.8
Dec. 31 "	308,715	60,320	19.5
Jan. 31, 1946	365,564	77,648	21.2
Feb. 28 "	430,799	95,013	22.1
Mar. 31 "	502,213	114,147	22.7

Unemployed

Unemployment among ex-service personnel showed a further increase during March. The high rate of demobilization continues the flow of ex-servicemen into the labour market. The increase in the number of job opportunities, to date, on the other hand, has been negligible. However, while there were more than 53,000 applications for employment during the month, the increase in the number of unplaced ex-service personnel was only 10,724. At the end of March, 83,029 ex-servicemen were reported as unplaced applicants by National Employment Service Offices. The percentage that has been registered for 15 days or more, however, continues to increase. Of those unplaced, 61,018 or 74 per cent had been registered for 15 days or more. At March 31, unemployed ex-service personnel constituted 31 per cent of the total number of unplaced applicants as compared with 27 per cent one month earlier. Table V shows the total unplaced 15 days or more, from May 31, 1945 to February 28, 1946.

Table V—Unplaced Ex-Servicemen and Those Unplaced 15 Days or More as
At the End of the Month, May, 1945 to March, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 7550B)

Date	Unplaced Applicants (1)	Applicants Unplaced 15 Days or more (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
May 31, 1945	10,614	(a)	(a)
June 30 "	12,013	(a)	(a)
July 31 "	13,673	(a)	(a)
Aug. 31 "	18,956	5,599	29.5
Sept. 30 "	27,770	10,098	36.4
Oct. 31 "	40,780	13,977	34.3
Nov. 30 "	46,503	20,775	44.7
Dec. 31 "	45,974	27,387	60.7
Jan. 31, 1946	59,861	37,364	62.4
Feb. 28 "	72,305	50,286	69.5
Mar. 31 "	83,029	61,018	73.5

(a) Figures not available

Dischargees of World War II only, constituted 85 per cent of the unemployed ex-service personnel, while 13 per cent had served in World War I and the remainder had served in both wars. Of the 70,643 who served in World War II only, 38 per cent had been previously employed since discharge. More ex-servicemen are taking advantage of the out-of-work benefits provided under the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order. At the end of March 47,200 ex-service personnel were receiving payments as compared with 32,800 at February 28.

Occupational Classification of Unplaced Ex-Service Personnel

Little change is apparent in the occupational classification of unplaced ex-service personnel over the last few months. At the end of March, 37 per cent of the unplaced ex-servicemen were classified as skilled or semi-skilled while 35 per cent were registered as unskilled. The occupational classification of ex-service personnel differs considerably from that of all unplaced applicants. Thirty-five per cent of all unplaced applicants were classified as skilled or semi-skilled and 39 per cent as unskilled. Table VI shows the percentage distribution by occupational groups of unplaced ex-service personnel as at selected dates.

Table VI—Percentage Distribution of Occupational Categories of Unplaced Ex-Service Personnel as at Selected Dates, October, 1945; December, 1945; February, 1946 and March, 1946.

(Source: Forms UIC 757 and 759 for Ex-Service Personnel)

Occupational Group	Oct. 31 1945	Dec. 31 1945	Feb. 28 1946	May 31 1946
Professional and managerial workers	6.7	5.6	4.5	4.5
Clerical workers	9.4	9.6	9.7	9.1
Sales workers	8.1	6.2	6.2	5.9
Service workers	4.7	5.6	5.2	4.8
Agricultural workers	1.5	1.5	2.4	3.2
Fishermen	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.5
Skilled and semi-skilled workers	39.0	36.9	36.9	36.9
Food products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Textiles, clothing, etc	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3
Lumber and wood products	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.9
Pulp and paper workers	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Printing	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3
Leather and products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3
Stone, clay and glass	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Electrical	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3
Mining and quarrying	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4
Construction	3.4	5.0	5.4	4.9
Metalworkers	7.4	7.2	6.1	6.0
Miscellaneous	23.0	20.2	21.2	21.8
Unskilled workers	30.5	34.5	34.7	35.1
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Ex-Servicemen and the Construction Industry

The extensive post-war construction program is expected to result in a shortage of skilled construction tradesmen. Ex-servicemen, however, who are at present taking vocational or apprenticeship training should help to alleviate this situation. A discharged person who has had some training in his chosen trade may be indentured to a contractor as an apprentice. During this time the wages of the employers are supplemented by a government grant. At the end of March, about 800^(a) ex-servicemen were taking apprenticeship training in construction occupations. An ex-serviceman, who has little or no knowledge of his chosen trade may first take an intensive course at a Canadian Vocational Training centre. During training and the subsequent apprenticeship period, ex-servicemen receive appropriate government grants. At March 31, there were 4,354 veterans registered in building trades in Canadian Vocational Training schools. More than three-quarters of those in training were taking courses in carpentry, electricity or plumbing and steam-fitting.

(a) Prince Edward Island has no organized apprenticeship training and reports for Quebec are not available.

Future Prospects

At the end of March, the effective strength of the armed forces was 191,000. This figure does not include 20,000 service personnel who are on extended leave. Their discharge, however, will not appreciably affect the labour market as most are already employed. It has been estimated that discharges from the armed forces will total 60,000 in April, 33,000 in May, and 20,000 in June. Of these 113,000 discharges, approximately 45,000 will be seeking employment and 25,000 will be reinstated in their former jobs. Thus, with the continuing flow of discharges into the labour market, unemployment among ex-service personnel is likely to persist until this influx is counteracted by a marked increase in the number of available job opportunities. Continuing industrial reconversion, however, reinforced by the normal seasonal upswing in activities, should serve to alleviate the unemployment situation in the near future.

Table VII--Veterans Registered for Training in
the Buildings Trades in C.V.T. Schools
at March 31, 1946

Trades	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	QUE.	ONT.	MAN.	SASK.	ALTA.	B.C.	TOTAL
Carpentry	21	60	128	159	521	143	116	131	97	1,376
Bricklaying	-	40	-	76	195	33	7	15	-	366
Painting and Decorating	-	11	-	26	159	41	-	25	-	262
Plastering	-	-	-	12	64	15	-	10	-	101
Plumbing and Steamfitting ...	8	34	25	44	428	60	19	49	15	682
Sheet Metal	-	21	6	39	168	52	13	64	22	385
Electricians	11	94	96	317	323	76	81	110	74	1,182
Total.....	40	260	255	673	1,858	420	236	404	208	4,354

Section 2: — THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

Source of Data and Definition of Terms

There are several series of statistics which record the level of activity in the Canadian construction industry. Those of the Construction Census Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics, have been selected as the most suitable for the purposes of this analysis. These data are based on reports received from general and sub-contractors, from harbour boards, and from provincial and federal governments. By type, these returns are divided into three major divisions: (1) building, which consists of three branches, residential, institutional and commercial; (2) engineering construction, including the construction of streets, highways, bridges and similar projects; (3) building trades, or construction jobbing, such as plumbing and heating, or electrical work.

Considerable research has been done recently in the field of construction statistics by various government departments, both in connection with the present housing shortage and in the evaluation of the relative importance of construction in the economy as a whole. Much of this work is unsuitable for use here, as it attempts to determine the total extent and value of construction "activity", rather than the work done by the construction "industry" in its more narrow sense. There are no complete statistics published on all aspects of the construction industry, such as employment, salaries and wages, and cost of materials, other than those of the Construction Census.

An indication of the difference between the estimates arising out of the recent research and the statistics of the Construction Census can be gleaned by a comparison of the respective figures and their sources. For example, the "value of work performed" as reported by the Construction Census in 1940 was \$474 millions. An estimate by O.J. Firestone places the "gross value of construction" in the same year at \$869 millions.⁽¹⁾

This discrepancy is due to the fact that the latter figure includes not only all the sources of the Construction Census mentioned above but also the following categories: (1) work done by certain firms which are engaged primarily in work not connected with the construction industry but which carry

(1) Estimate of the Gross Value of Construction in Canada, 1940. The Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science, May 1943.

out construction work with their own employ es, e.g., mines, logging, telephone, and telegraph companies; (2) railroad construction, repair and maintenance; (3) a number of workers on their own account not included in the Construction Census; (4) own-account construction work done by farmers or home-owners.

A third existing line of approach is that of estimating "gross investment and construction maintenance" by year as done in the study "Public Investment and Capital Formation" carried out under the auspices of the Dominion-Provincial Conference on Reconstruction. The coverage in this case is also wider than that of the Construction Census as the figures below indicate.

Table I. — Comparison of Data on Extent of Construction Activity
All figures are in millions of dollars

Year	Gross Investment and Maintenance	Value of Work Performed—D.B.S.
1938.....	633	352
1939.....	640	373
1940.....	756	474
1941.....	951	640

Two monthly records of the dollar value of construction, "contracts awarded" (McLean Building Reports), and "value of building permits issued" (D.B.S.), while they contain more recent data, are less accurate estimates than those provided by the Construction Census.

National Importance

Never before has the construction industry occupied so dominant a place in the public eye as it now does. It has taken a critical nation-wide shortage in the supply of housing to bring about a national consciousness of the importance of this industry. A basic segment of the Canadian economy in supplying fundamental social needs, the construction industry ranks as one of the major divisions of the economy, together with others such as manufacturing, mining and agriculture. In comparison with the main industrial groups, construction ranks fifth on the basis of employment, sixth in gross value of production, and fifth in the value of salaries and wages paid.

In 1944, 125,000 persons were directly employed in on-site construction work. Due to government restriction, and the scarcity of construction materials and labour, however, employment in 1944 was well below the average. In 1939, 150,000 were employed in the industry and in the wartime peak years of 1941 and 1942 a level of 175,000 was reached. Primary employment originating in construction is made up of on-site and off-site employment. It is estimated that the average ratio of on-site to off-site man-hours is 1:1.32, indicating that total primary employment is more than double the figures given, and, although the off-site employment is recorded under various manufacturing headings, it is directly dependent on the level of on-site construction activity. This report, therefore, will be primarily concerned with on-site employment, but the more extensive figure should be kept in mind in evaluating the national importance of the industry.

In 1944 the industry payroll was almost \$200,000,000 and the cost of materials used just slightly above this figure. The total value of work performed was \$450,000,000, a decrease of 21.4 per cent from the figure of the previous year. Of this total \$422,000,000 was spent on new work and the remainder on alterations and repairs.

Table II indicates the relative importance of the construction industry as a factor in total national income.

Table II — Comparison of the Contribution of Building and Construction proper to the National Income and to Total Wages and Salaries, 1935-9

(Source: Preliminary Report I on the Construction Industry in Relation to Postwar Economic Policy-O.J. Firestone)

Year	Estimates of Ratio of National Income Originating in Construction to Total National Income (in Percent)		Ratio of Wages and Salaries Paid in Bldg. and Construction Proper to Total of Wages and Salaries Paid
	Dominion Bureau of Statistics	Rowell-Sirois Report(1)	
1935.....	3.0	3.3	4.6
1936.....	3.0	3.3	4.4
1937.....	3.5	3.9	5.1
1938.....	3.6	3.9	5.0
1939.....	3.4	3.8	5.1
Average Ratio..	3.3	3.8	4.8

(1) Report of the Royal Commission on Dominion Provincial Relations

Value of Construction Work Performed, 1939-45

The tremendous wartime increase in construction work performed is indicated in Table III. A further breakdown would show that while the major increases were recorded in the industrial and engineering construction associated with the war effort, residential construction activity was also well above its 1939 level. Much of this housing, however, was of a temporary nature. Institutional, and street and highway construction were the only types in which a consistent decline in activity occurred during the war.

The drop in total value of work performed in 1944 was the result of the completion of most of the work necessary to the building up of strong armed forces. Diversion of labour and materials to other fields and the general scarcity of both these items prevented potential increases in non-essential residential and industrial construction. While the value of residential construction increased 30 per cent over 1943, this increase partly reflected increased costs of building materials and of labour.

Table III — Value of Work Performed in the Construction Industry,
1939-44

(Source: Report on the Construction Industry in Canada, 1944, D.B.S.)

Year	Building Construction	Engineering, Har- bours, Docks, etc.	Building Trades	Total All Construction
1939.....	\$159,041,080	\$168,302,939	\$45,859,661	\$373,203,680
1940.....	257,800,560	164,831,545	51,490,673	474,122,778
1941.....	374,491,173	200,656,038	64,603,413	639,750,624
1942.....	351,774,680	217,279,062	66,595,828	635,649,570
1943.....	301,884,888	203,527,830	67,013,833	572,426,551
1944.....	220,299,940	153,123,802	76,414,317	449,838,059

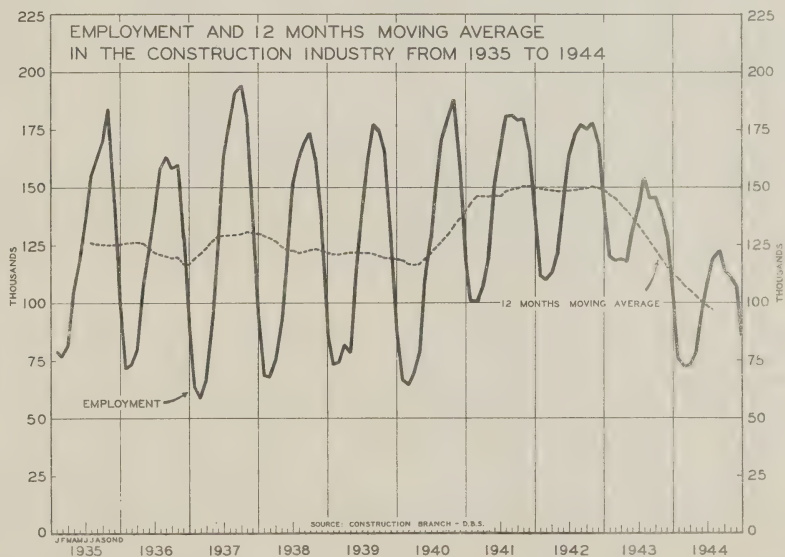
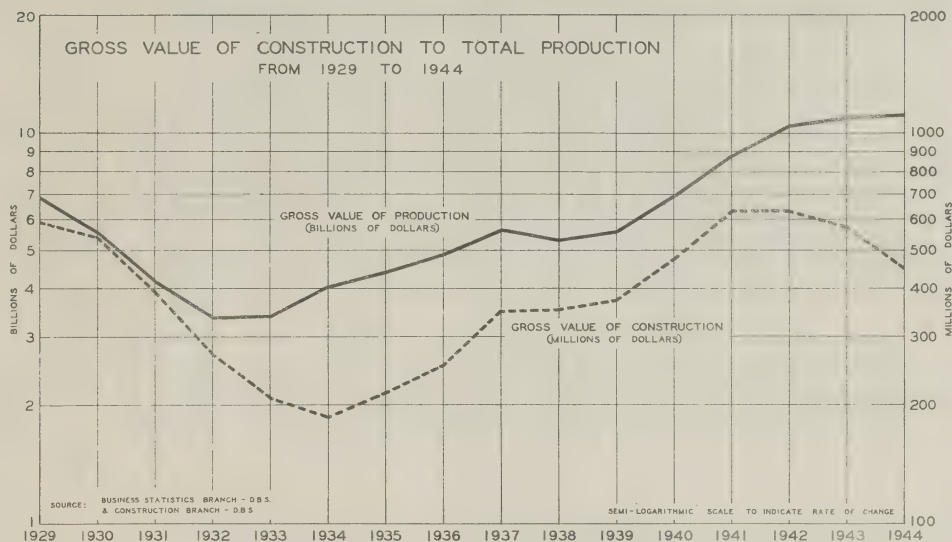
Final statistics for the 1945 volume of construction activity are not yet available, but figures on contracts awarded, which provide a fairly accurate estimate of private construction activity, have been well above the 1944 level. The 1945 total was \$409,000,000, as compared with \$293,000,000 in 1944. In the first two months of 1946, the value of contracts awarded was \$61,488,000, or about 150 per cent above the same period of the previous year.

Cyclical Aspects

The extreme year to year fluctuations in construction activity have earned it the title "Peak and Valley Industry". Activity tends to follow in pattern the movement in the value of gross production, but, as Chart I indicates, the rate and relative amplitude of cyclical change in construction is greater both during recession and during recovery. Suffering severely during the depression construction activity recovered considerably during the latter "Thirties" and by 1941 had reached a level higher than the 1929 peak. When price movements are taken into consideration, the 1941 position is shown up in an even more favourable light. Although recovery in construction was a fundamental part of the general economic recovery, it was partly due to the initiation of the Dominion government's policy of stimulating private construction primarily through a national housing scheme. With the beginning of the second world war the cyclical pattern was thrown out of focus so that between 1939 and 1941 a sharp upswing in construction output reflected the wartime expansion of plant, airfields, roads. After 1941 positive government policy to restrict activity in durable investment and consumer goods, was reflected in a sharp decline in construction activity until 1945.

The employment pattern does not follow closely the curve of construction activity, as one might expect it to on a first consideration. Comparable data on employment is not available before 1934 so that the sharp drop in employment from 1929 is not shown in the chart. A conference of the construction industry in 1933 claimed that 300,000 on-site construction workers were involved in the 1929 construction program of over \$590,000,000. The construction program for the peak year, 1941, shows that a program greater than \$625,000,000 was achieved with 150,000 men. This development, therefore, suggests that the per man output had more than doubled between the two peaks. When the figures are adjusted for price movements, the advance in productivity is even more decided. The proportion of expenditures for construction material increased considerably from 1934-1941, substantiating the implication that productivity increased. The years 1934-1936 show a peculiar

GROSS VALUE AND EMPLOYMENT CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY



downward trend in employment while construction activity showed signs of sharp recovery. This can be accounted for partly by increased efficiency, greater use of on-site machinery, and the use of more off-site material. The rise in payrolls during the period in question indicates that in large part the contradictory movement can be explained by the advance of many construction workers from a chronic level of under-employment.

Construction comprises an important segment of total investment activity, comprising the most durable of all capital goods. It is now commonly accepted in economic circles that durable goods industries, both capital and consumer, experience fluctuations which in amplitude are far more severe than those of all other segments of the economy. The main reason for the comparably greater fluctuations in capital goods industries is that "changes in the demand for and production of finished goods and services tend to give rise to much greater changes in the demand for and production of these producers goods which are used in their production" (1).

The magnitude of the industry in relation to the total economy, and particularly to the investment goods segment, adds to its crucial position and makes it a key determinant of the level of national income and of employment. Its unstable and destabilizing aspects are vital in accounting for wide differences in general economic activity as between prosperity and depression.

An interesting characteristic of the construction industry, and one which has been greatly neglected in business cycle analysis, is the length of the building cycle. Studies of a hundred years of construction history in the U.S.A. indicate that building construction has followed a fairly regular cyclical pattern averaging between 17 and 18 years in length, twice as long as the major business cycle (2). The amplitude and length of building cycles is due mainly to the durability of buildings and to corresponding fluctuations of rent as supply adjusts itself to demand. A Canadian study suggests that the Canadian construction cycle does not follow the pattern in the U.S.A., but approximates more closely the major business cycle (3). Since the reasons for a long construction cycle apply equally to Canada as this country approaches the stage of a mature economy, it can be expected that barring positive government policy the experience will be similar to that of the U.S.A.

The building cycle has a definite relationship to the business cycle, and American experience indicates that with a high degree of consistency every other major business boom coincides with a boom in building construction while the succeeding recovery parallels a depressed state in building. The nature and extent of the business cycle, therefore, is largely coloured by the longer building cycle in the background. The particular severity of the last depression and the slow recovery of the thirties can be explained in this way. The post-war recovery can be expected to have a far more favourable record on this account.

(1) Gottfried Haberler. Prosperity and Depression p.88

(2) A.H. Hansen. Fiscal Policy and Business Cycles. pp. 19-20

(3) O.J. Firestone. Estimate of Gross Value of Construction 1940
Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science, May 1943 p. 219

Accumulated Building Need

The accumulated building need shown in Table V. is based on the joint assumptions that, (a) every family and non-family group desiring to live in their own quarters should be able to obtain a separate dwelling unit, and (b) that it is desirable to remove, at some reasonable rate, all substandard and slum dwellings from the existing housing supply. In the past, these objectives have not been obtained as Canada has not had planned slum clearance or large scale low-rent housing programs, nor any measures to secure the withdrawal of old and dilapidated housing.

A more practical postwar objective, for both urban and rural requirements, is given in Table IV. This estimate presupposes that it will be impossible to raise the standards of housing immediately but only feasible to satisfy the most urgent needs. It does not follow that the 606,000 total of housing units required should be built in equal annual instalments. Housing can be used as a weapon to achieve economic stabilization and full employment. This would mean the distribution of the housing program in such a manner as to concentrate the heavy building programs in periods when there are substantial lapses in investment.

Table IV— Estimated Canadian Housing Requirements During the First Post-War Decade (Number of Dwelling Units).

(Source: The Final Report of the Advisory Committee on Reconstruction - Housing and Community Planning.)

Type	Urban Areas	Non-incor- porated Communities	Total
Accumulated Building Need..... (Half of minimum requirements)	160,000	11,000	171,000
Current Building Need			
Est. net increase of families during decade.....	240,000	40,000	280,000
Current replacements.....	135,000	20,000	155,000
Total.....	535,000	71,000	606,000

Table V. — Dimensions of Accumulated Urban Building Needs, as of 1946
(Actual Building Need and Minimum Program)

(Source: The Final Report of the Advisory Committee on Reconstruction,
No. IV - Housing and Community Planning, P. 140)

Type	Number of New Dwellings Required			
	Basis of Estimate	Major Cities	Smaller Cities towns & incorporated communities	Total Urban
<u>I. Actual Accumulated Building Need</u>				
(a) Current Shortages				
1. Building deficit, normal population growth (war years)	1941-45	(30,000)#	(15,000)#	45,000
2. Abnormal city growth due to war industries	1939-45	35,000	5,000	40,000
3. Vacancy rate (2 per cent) ..	1941	16,000	13,000	29,000
(b) Overcrowding				
4. Doubled up families	1941	110,000	40,000	150,000
5. Doubled up non-family groups	1941	(32,000)#	(12,000)#	44,000
(c) Substandard and Slum Clearance				
6. Minimum replacement program	1941	125,000	50,000	175,000
(d) Special Allowance				
7. Non-incorporated parts of Metropolitan areas	1941-45	—	—	17,000
Total	—	348,000	135,000	500,000
<u>II. Immediate Program</u>				
(a) Current Shortages				
1. Building deficit, normal population growth (war years)	1941-45	(16,000)#	(7,000)#	23,000
2. Abnormal city growth due to war industries	1939-45	35,000	—	35,000
(b) Overcrowding				
3. Doubled up families (Half of total)	1941	55,000	20,000	75,000
(c) Substandard and Slum Clearance				
4. Minimum replacement program	1941	125,000	50,000	175,000
(d) Special allowance				
5. Non-incorporated parts of Metropolitan areas	1941-45	—	—	12,000
Total	—	231,000	77,000	320,000

Distribution of deficit as between major cities and smaller cities, towns and incorporated communities is arbitrary.

Construction Costs

The large war-time rise in construction costs occurred in the years 1939-40. From that period until 1945, costs rose more gradually. After reaching a high of 141.0 (1935-39=100) in March of last year, the index of construction costs dropped almost six points in May and during the remainder of the year remained fairly stable at slightly over 135. An increase occurred in the first two months of this year, the February figure being 141.4.

Wholesale prices of building materials, a most important factor in construction costs, have followed a similar pattern. Since May (128.0) of 1945, the index has stayed within a range of 122.3-123.7 (1926=100). The latter figure is the index for February and March of this year.

Table VI — Construction Costs, 1939-45

(Source: Monthly Business Statistics, D.B.S.)

	Dec. 1939	Dec. 1940	Dec. 1941	Dec. 1942	Dec. 1943	Dec. 1944	Dec. 1945
Construction Costs.....	96.2	109.6	121.7	127.8	135.8	139.7	136.6
Wholesale Prices of Building Materials.....	94.2	98.0	112.9	116.7	126.7	127.6	122.7

Supply of Building Materials

Material shortages are currently a deterrent to increased employment in the construction industry. The Fifth Construction Survey conducted by the Department of Labour, from November 26, 1945, to March 5, 1946, shows that 31.4 per cent of a total of 16,670 building projects surveyed listed material shortages as an obstacle to completion. More recent reports from National Employment Offices across Canada indicate that this condition is continuing to have a detrimental effect on employment.

An investigation by the Department of Reconstruction during February, 1946, revealed that cast iron soil pipe was the article in shortest supply. Eighty-three per cent of all the contractors interviewed listed a scarcity of this item. Bathtubs, interior millwork, and sheet metal were also named as materials very difficult to obtain.

Wages and Hours

Per capita weekly earnings in the building trades have shown considerable increases during the war years. Earnings reached their peak in November, 1943, when the average weekly wage was \$36.58. Thereafter earnings levelled off and remained fairly steady between \$33.00 and \$35.00 per week. At February 1, 1946, average weekly earnings were \$33.84. As these figures refer to both skilled and semi-skilled workers, it is probable that skilled workers' earnings were considerably higher.

Wage rates, as shown in Table VII, vary by region and occupation; on the average bricklayers are the highest paid of all skilled workers. Edmonton bricklayers received the highest wage rate, \$1.31 per hour, 16 per cent above their 1939 level. Hourly wage rates for plumbers are the next highest in the building trades. Painters' wage rates are the lowest among skilled workers but still well above those of unskilled labourers.

Table VII.—Construction Wage Rates, 1945 - Preliminary

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour)

Locality	Bricklayers		Carpenters		Electricians		Painters		Plasterers		Plumbers		Sheet Metal Workers		Labourers	
	Wage Rate Per Hour		Wage Rate Per Hour		Wage Rate Per Hour		Wage Rate Per Hour		Wage Rate Per Hour		Wage Rate Per Hour		Wage Rate Per Hour		Wage Rate Per Hour	
<u>Maritime Provinces</u>																
Halifax	1.15	\$	.95	\$	1.06	\$	.81	\$	.95	\$	1.00	\$	—	\$	.52	\$
Saint John	1.10		.85		.90		.76		—		.86		—		.57	
<u>Quebec</u>																
Quebec City	1.00		.80		.80		.75		1.00		.80		.80		.59	
Montreal	1.06		.96		1.01		.86		1.06		1.01		.96		.61	
<u>Ontario</u>																
Ottawa	1.16		.96		.95		.86		1.06		1.12		1.01		.56	
Hamilton	1.18		1.05		1.05		.86		—		1.06½		.91		.64	
Toronto	1.23		1.11		1.21		.97		1.21		1.17		1.16		.66	
Windsor	1.26		1.18		1.26		.95		1.15		1.25		1.06		.73	
<u>Prairie Provinces</u>																
Winnipeg	1.25		1.05		1.05		.90		1.25		1.15		.85		.61	
Regina	1.26		.96		1.06		.76		1.16		1.06		.84		.53	
Calgary	1.25		1.03		1.05		.90		—		1.11½		.96½		.62	
Edmonton	1.31		1.03		1.05		.91		—		1.16		1.06½		.60	
<u>British Columbia</u>																
Vancouver	1.29		1.12		1.19		.97		1.10		1.19		1.18		.77	
Victoria	1.20		1.10		1.06		.96		1.10		1.17½		1.17½		.68	

Standard hours per week for skilled workers have shown little or no change in recent years. The 44-48 week is now regular throughout Canada in all skilled trades.

Seasonal Aspects

Perhaps the most troublesome aspect of the wages and hours problem in construction is the extreme seasonality of the industry. The seasonal amplitude is clearly shown in the second chart, indicating that during the war years the high level of output was achieved with a reduction of the seasonal extremes. Construction wage rates as shown in Table VII suggests a good annual wage. Eight months work in the year is considered good in construction, and long periods of enforced idleness reduce the annual wage to a level quite out of keeping with the hourly rates. This accounts for general pressure to introduce an annual wage. Considering the organizational pattern of the industry, it is most unlikely that a change can be made from the present hourly-wage system. If improvement is achieved in the length of the work year and the annual construction wage, it will likely be done by changes in the technique of building. If you can't do much about the weather, you can at least come out of it.

The long term trend has been toward the use of more material and less labour, a development which involves less on-site and more off-site employment. Standardization of designs, measurements, and production methods can make a great contribution, not only in reducing costs of production, but also in achieving more stable year-around production and employment.

Pre-fabrication of parts, kitchen and plumbing units is another step in the direction of reducing seasonality, and although this will involve some changes in the pattern of employment and skills required, the long term effect, by reducing costs, will stimulate rather than reduce on-site employment. Great advances may be expected in this new field in the next few years. The effects of this development on seasonality need no further stressing.

Productivity

Data on man-hour output is unavailable, so that any attempt at estimating productivity changes is necessarily based on crude over-all techniques. The change that occurred in average per capita output between the peak years 1929 and 1941 indicates that a remarkable advance in productivity had occurred. It is estimated that 300,000 on-site workers were involved in the 1929 construction program of over \$590,000,000. During the peak year of 1941 a program of \$625,000,000 was achieved with 150,000 men. It is clear then, that the average per capita output had more than doubled. Table IX indicates the percentage distribution of wages, salaries, cost of material and overhead expenses in the gross value of construction, from 1934-1941. The most significant changes are the decline of wages and salaries paid from 54 per cent to 37 per cent of the total value of construction; and the growth in cost of materials from 38 per cent to 57 per cent. The introduction of more efficient on-site machinery, consequent reduced labour requirements, and the growing emphasis on pre-fabricated and standardized parts, have increased the share of building materials in the total. In a sense, then, some employment was transferred from on-site to off-site location.

Table VIII- Percentage Distribution of Factor Cost - Gross Value of Construction, 1934-1941

(Source: D.B.S. Census of Construction)

Year	Wages	Salaries	Cost of Material	Overhead and Undistributed Profits	Total Value of Construction
1934.....	45.48	9.09	38.02	7.41	100
1935.....	38.32	10.47	43.96	7.25	100
1936.....	33.94	9.79	47.36	8.91	100
1937.....	34.17	8.64	49.97	7.22	100
1938.....	31.88	9.85	49.99	8.28	100
1939.....	31.78	9.33	50.78	8.11	100
1940.....	30.47	7.55	56.36	5.39	100
1941.....	30.25	7.02	57.34	5.39	100

In spite of the remarkable progress in technique shown during the thirties, the construction industry is still one of the most backward in technological developments particularly in residential building. Lack of industrial integration, and the small scale of operations of most contractors necessarily involve the traditional type of custom built unit with consequent high costs of production. The war years, with planned curtailment of activity, saw very little progress in technique. The urgency of present requirements, however, has emphasized the need for technical improvement on construction. All these changes take time to evolve, and no short-run panacea is in sight. On the contrary, building costs in terms of real factor-cost are considerably higher now than in pre-war years, due mainly to the dissipation of and inability to develop the skilled labour force required for a large-scale construction program.

Unions and Collective Bargaining

The construction industry is highly unionized with membership dating back to the early 1900's. Most of the skilled workers are organized into "craft" unions, the majority of those members are engaged chiefly on building projects. Despite the fact that the largest decline in union membership in 1944 was in this industry, construction continued to rank fourth in extent of unionization with 46 per cent of all employees union members. The total number of union members in the industry in 1944 was 57,501. The two largest unions were the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners with a membership of 20,271 in 1945, and the National Catholic Federation of Building Trades with 16,435 members in 1945.

Collective bargaining agreements within the industry are among the earliest on record and follow the trend of unionization closely. While agreements are on record from 1906, most of the existing ones were reached in the twenties and early thirties. Usually these were negotiated between unions and employers; some, however, are between employers associations and employers. Quite frequently, several small employers in the same community are covered by one agreement.

Strikes

The small number of strikes in recent years reflects the good relations existing between management and labour. In 1945, there were seven strikes,

five in the building trades and two in road construction, involving 380 workers with a total time-loss of 2,948 working days. In 1944, the corresponding figures were six building trade strikes involving 437 workers with a 1,212 working day time-loss.

Present Employment(1)

Reported employment in the construction industry has declined gradually from December 1, 1945, to March 1, 1946. At December 1, the figure was 127,129; at March 1, it had dropped to 90,759. When broken down into its two component parts, building and highway construction, it is found that highway construction accounted for 80 per cent of this seasonal decline. The decrease in the number of building workers amounted to only slightly more than 7,000.

On the basis of reports received from National Employment Service Offices, an increase of approximately 5,000 employees occurred in the construction industry during March. Placements, including those engaged without reference to the N.E.S., totalled 15,032. Separations from the industry amounted to 10,197 during the same period. These reports also show that building material shortages are holding up construction in all regions and that skilled labour remains scarce in many areas.

Employment Opportunities

At present, the shortage of skilled tradesmen is a serious bottleneck in the construction industry, and this condition will continue for several years until the present training scheme commences to bear fruit. The next decade seems favourable for the skilled craftsman. Not only will considerable time be required to satiate existing demand, but also, large numbers of older craftsmen will be retiring. According to the National Registration of 1940, 37 per cent of all skilled construction workers were over the age of 50 years. As there has been little recruitment of new men during the war years, and an exodus of younger men into the armed forces and war industry, this percentage will have increased in the five years since the survey. Included elsewhere in this issue is a study of the training of skilled tradesmen in the construction industry which gives a more optimistic picture of the supply forthcoming within the next few years.

The supply of unskilled and semi-skilled labour, which comprises 40 per cent of the total construction labour force, is expected to be adequate for all requirements of the rapidly expanding industry.

Future Prospects

Immediate employment prospects in construction are very good. Once the "kinks" in the building material supply situation are straightened out, the number of workers employed will rise precipitously and should stay at a very high level for several years. In view of the extent of existing demand, it is quite possible that total on-site employment will pass the 250,000 mark. The only disturbing factor in this otherwise bright picture is the seasonal nature of the work.

(1) The source of the figures used in this section is the Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. As there are differences in coverage, these figures are not comparable to the other employment figures used in this analysis which are those of the Construction Branch, D.B.S.

The latest figures on "contracts awarded" show that the total for the first four months in 1946 is over \$194,000,000 or 147 per cent above the same period in 1945. No corresponding rise in employment was apparent at April 1. There are several factors which are hindering the translation of these contracts into terms of actual employment. Some of these are: (1) the time gap between the date a contract is awarded and the date actual construction begins; (2) shortage of building materials; (3) shortage of skilled labour; (4) seasonal inactivity, i.e., weather conditions. But large increases in employment levels are definitely presaged by the substantial rise in contracts awarded.

Over a long term period, the sensitivity of construction to general business conditions causes it to fall lower than any other industry during a depression and to reach a correspondingly higher peak in prosperous times. It has been estimated that one-third of our population is ill-housed. In the future the human factor may override the economic, and adequate housing will be made available to all. The theoretical horizon of the construction industry—new and better houses, improved highways, public works projects—is so vast as to be considered almost limitless. But full employment is the "sine qua non" of the achievement of even our minimum building needs. The greatest danger is that the industry now will inflate itself to abnormal proportions to meet the accumulated demand, and then collapse in bad times, leaving thousands of skilled men without work.

Construction and Full Employment

The dominant place of the construction industry in an economy needs no further stressing, and explains in large part why it has been seized upon, so generally, as a vehicle whereby governments may exert a stabilizing and stimulating influence in the level of economic activity. Careful planning and definite government policy are essential if the repercussions in the post-war boom are not to result in accentuated fluctuations in building activity.

By regulating the flow of public construction to fit the particular phase of the cycle, and by encouraging and discouraging the level of private construction through fiscal policy and other techniques, the government can exert an influence in "ironing out" the extreme fluctuations in investment and national income. But in a more positive way the construction industry is ideally suited for the compensatory technique of filling gaps in investment during periods of decline. In view of the fact that the government has accepted the responsibility for maintaining a high and stable level of income and employment, the construction industry will probably come into its own in the not too distant future. At the moment, the main problem may be restraint rather than encouragement of investment, but when the backlog of demand for investment and durable consumer goods is satiated it may become vital for the government to step in and fill the gap. The relative labour-absorption capacity of the construction industry in primary on-site and off-site employment, the relatively minor demand for imported material ensuring that the stimulating influence is effective at home, the universal need for construction making it convenient to apply stimulus to specific chronic areas with immediate local effects, the boost to confidence which is attributable to visible construction activity, all these factors contribute to make this industry an ideal one through which to apply the investment leverage. The fact that construction has always been important in government public works programs makes it more palatable to the public and less likely to have a secondary dampening effect.

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TRAINING OF SKILLED LABOUR IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

It became apparent during the war that a construction program of huge dimensions could be expected in the immediate post-war period. To meet the skilled labour requirements, and at the same time to assist in the rehabilitation of ex-servicemen, an extensive vocational training scheme was instituted. The methods of training varied according to the demands of the different occupations. Formal training could be affected only through the medium of the apprenticeship plan. Accordingly, in 1944, the Minister of Labour entered into a 10 year agreement with the provinces having or willing to establish apprenticeship acts. The Dominion government provided a fund of upwards of one million dollars to help defray the cost of technical education provided by the provinces to the registered apprentices. The provinces had to abide by certain regulations laid down by the Federal government, but otherwise were free to establish their apprenticeship acts in accordance with their own respective regulations or requirements.

Under the present regulations there are the following formal arrangements for training skilled craftsmen in the building trades.

Veterans Training

In all Provinces with established apprenticeship acts, training has been shortened in favour of veterans. Ex-servicemen who indicate a desire to learn one of the designated trades of the construction industry are referred by the Department of Veterans Affairs counsellor to the Provincial Apprenticeship Board for approval. Included on this Board is an authorized union representative and a representative from Canadian Vocational Training. A person with some trade experience, whether obtained in the army or in civilian life, will receive credit toward the apprenticeship requirements, determined on the basis of practical tests. According to his qualifications, he will be indentured to a contractor as a third or fourth year apprentice. At the end of the term he will receive his papers and all benefits of a qualified journeyman.

Ex-servicemen with no previous trade experience may attend a vocational course in a Canadian Vocational Training centre and upon successful completion of the work will be entered as third year apprentices. The length of apprenticeship varies by trade and by province, with the four year course being the most common. Refresher courses are available at the training centre to men who have attained journeyman or near-journeyman status.

Under the Veteran's Rehabilitation Act the Department of Veterans Affairs will pay training allowances, varying with the earnings of the apprentice and his marital status, to an extent whereby the combined total earnings do not exceed \$100. a month for a single man and \$120. per month for a married man plus allowances for children.

Civilian Training

According to the normal established practice the apprentice indentures himself to a master craftsman on the job for the entire period of apprenticeship. The duration of most of these contracts is for four years, starting at a low wage, with increases every six months. The trainees must also attend classes for several hours each week, or for several weeks during the slack winter season.

In pre-war years very little interest could be developed in the "hard" trades. Young men were not prepared to give four or five years, at very low remuneration during training, to learn a trade in which the skilled tradesmen of pre-war years were fortunate if they found six months work each year. In addition the intense cyclical fluctuation of the industry meant years of unemployment for many skilled men.

Employment opportunities look very good for a number of years to come, and with recent pressure for easing the apprenticeship requirements and raising the wage-rates during training, construction trades are attracting considerable numbers of ex-servicemen and former war-workers. Offsite pre-fabrication of standardized parts and pre-fabricated units should serve to ease the seasonal fluctuations, but these methods have not become universal enough to have considerable influence.

Table II shows the number of persons by province, and by skill, now enrolled for training in the construction trades in Canadian Vocational Training schools and those actually taking their apprenticeship. Prince Edward Island has no organized apprenticeship scheme and figures for Quebec are not available.

Table III shows the breakdown for those taking apprenticeship training by province, trade, and year of apprenticeship, and will serve as a guide to the numbers of trained mechanics forthcoming each year for the next four years.

On the demand side, the Joint National Conference of the Construction Industry held in February of this year, concluded that 5,600 apprentices per year, excluding those who broke their apprenticeship contract to join the armed forces, would be needed in the industry for the next four years. Because of the supply of casual partly trained men, in two of the trades, namely carpentry and painting, the requirement could be scaled down reducing the total requirement per annum. These figures do not include an estimated 50,000 workers who will be required as tractor operators, truck drivers and other trades needed for engineering projects.

Table I shows the number of skilled tradesmen required by Province and by trade.

A comparison of the demand and supply as indicated in the tables reveal the following facts:

If the rate of enrollment continues at the present high level, brick-laying, plumbing and steamfitting, sheet-metal and electrician trades show signs of possible overcrowding. Two qualifications are necessary. The present rate of enrollment reflects the high rate of discharge from the armed services and war industry, and although it will probably maintain itself for sometime is bound to slacken. Many trainees will seek outlets for their acquired trades outside the construction industry. This is particularly true of the plumbing and steamfitting, sheet-metal and electrical trades.

Table I.—Estimated Number of Apprentices by Trade and Province 1946-1950
(Source: Joint National Conference of the Construction Industry)

Trades	$\frac{1}{4}$ Year Total	N.S.	N.B.	P.E.I.	F.Q.	ONT.	MAN.	SASK.	ALTA.	B.C.
Bricklaying	738	73	24	2	266	231	28	17	33	62
Carpentry	7,600	760	251	25	2,736	2,383	284	173	340	651
Plasterer	650	65	21	2	234	204	24	15	29	54
Painter	5,000	500	165	15	1,800	1,577	188	115	230	420
Plumbing & Steam- Fitting	2,800	280	92	8	1,001	878	105	64	128	235
Electricians	3,300	330	109	9	1,188	1,035	123	76	151	277
Sheet Metal	600	60	20	2	216	188	22	14	28	50

x To ascertain annual recruitment divide totals by 4

The painting and decorating trade is being overlooked in almost every Province with a total of 363 enrolled as against a 1,250 annual absorption capacity. Provincial breakdowns may run counter to the overall national totals. For example, the plastering trade is being overlooked completely in the Maritimes, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Approximately 290 apprentices in all trades are expected to become journeymen this year. The estimated national demand for skilled construction craftsmen as measured by unfilled vacancies is over 5,000, and this figure underestimates the real need since the construction industry is just coming out of its seasonal lull. It is quite apparent then that demand will greatly outstrip supply, with no prospects of improvement in the short run. A progressive number of skilled men will be forthcoming each year, and if construction activity maintains itself, an equilibrium position should be reached in about four years.

Table 11—Canadian Vocational Training and Apprenticeship Training as at March 31, 1946

(Source: Vocational Training Branch, Department of Labour)

Province	Carpentry			Bricklaying			Painting and Decorating			Plastering			Plumbing and Steam Fitting			Sheet Metal			Electricians			All Trades		
	(1) CVT	(2) AT	TOTAL	CVT	AT	TOTAL	CVT	AT	TOTAL	CVT	AT	TOTAL	CVT	AT	TOTAL	CVT	AT	TOTAL	CVT	AT	TOTAL	CVT	AT	TOTAL
P.E.I.-(3)	21	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	8	-	-	-	11	-	11	40	-	40
N.S.	60	2	62	40	2	42	11	1	12	-	-	-	34	5	39	21	2	23	94	24	118	260	36	296
N.B.	128	3	131	-	5	5	-	2	2	-	-	-	25	8	33	6	1	7	56	2	58	255	21	276
QUE.(4)	159	-	159	76	-	76	26	-	26	12	-	12	44	-	44	39	-	39	317	-	317	673	-	673
ONT.	521	231	752	195	86	281	159	48	207	64	26	90	428	424	852	168	138	306	323	409	732	4,858	1,362	3,228
MAN.	143	21	164	33	5	38	41	12	53	15	2	17	60	12	72	52	12	64	76	40	116	420	104	524
SASK.	116	46	162	7	3	10	-	2	2	-	-	-	19	4	23	9	9	22	81	15	96	236	79	315
ALTA.	131	114	245	15	19	34	25	14	39	10	14	24	49	81	130	64	45	109	110	25	205	404	582	786
B.C.	97	107	204	-	4	4	-	22	22	-	4	4	15	71	86	22	99	121	74	140	214	208	447	655
TOTAL	1,376	524	1,900	366	124	490	262	101	363	101	46	147	682	605	1,287	385	306	691	1,182	725	1,907	4,354	2,431	6,785

(1) Canadian Vocational Training-

(2) Apprenticeship Training.

(3) Prince Edward Island has no organized apprenticeship training.

(4) No reports on apprenticeship are available for Quebec.

Table III—Civilians and Veterans in Apprenticeship Training for Construction Industry by Year, Trade and Province

(Source: Vocational Training Branch, Department of Labour)

	YEAR	N.S.	N.B.	ONT.	MAN.	SASK.	ALTA.	B.C.	TOTAL
Carpentry	1	2	2	63	14	40	68	38	227
	2	-	1	70	3	3	17	40	134
	3	-	-	72	2	3	19	11	107
	4	-	-	26	2	-	10	4	42
	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	14	14
Bricklaying	1	2	1	26	5	2	16	2	54
	2	-	2	14	-	1	-	-	17
	3	-	-	38	-	-	2	-	40
	4	-	2	8	-	-	1	-	11
	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2
Painting & Decorating	1	1	2	9	5	2	9	2	30
	2	-	-	14	5	-	1	10	30
	3	-	-	14	2	-	3	4	23
	4	-	-	11	-	-	1	5	17
	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Plastering	1	-	-	7	-	-	12	4	23
	2	-	-	7	2	-	1	-	10
	3	-	-	8	-	-	1	-	9
	4	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4
	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plumbing & Steam Fitting	1	5	3	73	3	3	47	8	142
	2	-	3	100	3	-	12	27	145
	3	-	2	124	4	1	11	12	154
	4	-	-	99	2	-	6	3	110
	5	-	-	28	-	-	5	21	54
Sheet Metal	1	2	1	23	7	5	26	7	71
	2	-	-	42	1	2	5	35	85
	3	-	-	60	3	2	3	21	89
	4	-	-	13	1	-	7	11	32
	5	-	-	-	-	-	4	25	29
Electricians	1	23	1	74	21	4	42	15	180
	2	1	-	124	8	1	19	52	205
	3	-	1	149	8	3	16	16	193
	4	-	-	62	3	7	18	25	115
	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	32
Total	1	35	10	275	55	56	220	76	727
	2	1	6	371	22	7	55	164	626
	3	-	3	465	19	9	55	64	615
	4	-	2	223	8	7	43	48	331
	5	-	-	28	-	-	9	95	132

PART III

AREA ANALYSIS

Section 1:--A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

The attempt to classify labour market areas according to the seriousness of unemployment in each raises two distinct problems. The first concerns the adoption of a satisfactory measure; the second concerns the selection of ranges along the measure which correspond to recognized levels of unemployment in the past.

The evaluation of the seriousness of unemployment in any area can be based upon the long or short term prospects of the local labour market. If the particular labour market is being studied from the point of view of its long term prospects, then the interpretation must be based in a large part on qualitative factors. If, however, the labour market in any area is being assessed solely on the basis of its current characteristics and its short term prospects, then the interpretation can be based almost entirely on quantitative data. It cannot be stressed too highly that it is the latter type of evaluation that is made by the measure that is adopted in the rating used in this section. More detailed and long term evaluation is attempted in the succeeding section of this report.

The number of unemployed is not an adequate index to use in evaluating the short term relative labour market situation in various localities. For this purpose the volume of unemployment must be related to some figure which measures the size of the area. This figure might be the population of the area, the number in the local labour force, or the numbers that are employed in the area. By using a population estimate as a base, many people are included in the measure whose activities have no relation to the labour market (i.e., housewives, students, retired persons). Since this proportion varies from area to area, a spurious element would be thus introduced into the measure.

An alternative is to use the ratio of the unemployed to the labour force. Theoretically, the latter figure is the best one to use as an indication of the size of an area. This includes all those who may become unemployed, and thus any shift in status of those employed, viewed in the broadest sense of the term (including paid wage and salary workers, employers, self-employed, and unpaid family workers), to the ranks of the unemployed would be immediately reflected in the ratio. On the other hand, movements within the labour force not resulting in unemployment would not affect the measure. Since the objective of the ratio is to evaluate the relative level of unemployment, this would be another advantage. However, the basic obstacle to the adoption of

this measure is that estimates of the labour force are not available at present. It is hoped that in a few months these will be obtained from the new Dominion Bureau of Statistics Labour Force Survey, and when these are available a ratio of unemployment to the labour force will be adopted.

A second alternative is to relate the volume of unemployment in each area to an estimate of total employment, defined as the number of wage and salary workers in the area. Since the base here suggested is a more variable quantity than would be the labour force as a whole, a more sensitive ratio is thus obtained. This being the case, the measure tends to emphasize short term changes to a relatively high degree. Unfortunately, however, it is also affected by changes not resulting in unemployment. For instance, a movement of workers from the paid worker category to a self-employed status would increase the ratio, and would suggest that the employment situation had become worse. This, however, is not serious since such movement is usually relatively slight. Until estimates of the labour force are available by area, therefore, the ratio used will be that of the number of unemployed per 1,000 employed workers.

It might be thought that the addition of the unemployed in any area to an estimate of the total number of wage and salary workers would give a figure approximately that of the labour force. The recent D.B.S. release on the labour force in Canada, however, disproves this theory. According to these estimates, about one-third of the whole labour force falls outside of the two groups, wage and salary workers and unemployed. This large portion of the labour force is spread over the following categories: employers, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and agricultural workers. Hence, the employed plus the unemployed should not be equated to the labour force.

The second and more difficult problem is that of distinguishing various ranges of unemployment. It is obvious that some unemployment is unavoidable in a dynamic economy as workers move from one job to another, as those leaving school fit themselves into their vocations, as older workers slowly withdraw from the labour force, and as seasonal workers shift from terminating jobs to new ones. An economy in which even "full employment" has been reached will necessarily have some unemployment. During 1943 and 1944, Canada more than achieved full employment. If the ratios are computed for June 1 of each of these years, it is found that there were 27 and 22 workers out of work per 1,000 employed at each of these dates respectively. However, this was a period when unemployment was at an even lower level than that commensurate with even the most favourable conditions of peace-time employment. Many workers had jobs when under less abnormal conditions they would have been unemployed or on the fringe of employability. Therefore, it does not seem unreasonable to define a ratio of 50 or less unemployed per 1,000 employed workers as the level of unemployment which would exist under satisfactory employment conditions.

It is of further aid to interpretation to evaluate other levels of unemployment on the basis of comparison with the past. At June 2, 1941, there were 280,000 unemployed in Canada, according to the results of the Decennial Census. If the above-mentioned ratio is computed for this period a figure of 113 is obtained. On the basis of this, therefore, another general level of unemployment might be indicated by ratios ranging from 50 to 150.

Estimates of unemployment in Canada at June 1, 1939, range from 350,000 to 650,000. If ratios are computed on the basis of these figures, a range of from 175 to 303 is obtained. It is reasonable, therefore, to categorize a more serious level of unemployment as that indicated by ratios ranging from 150 to 300.

Finally, all ratios above 300 can be viewed as a category of a still more serious nature. The schedules of the 1931 Decennial Census did not have a question which would segregate all those between 14 and 20 years of age who were seeking work for the first time but had not yet found a job. If, however, this group can be estimated as only slightly smaller than that which existed in 1941, an estimate of unemployment as at June 1, 1931, of 600,000 is obtained. For that date the ratio would be 310. During the years following 1931, unemployment increased, and thus the ratio would also become greater. All ratios over 300, therefore, can be taken as indicating levels of unemployment comparable to those that existed in the early Thirties.

In summary, the categories outlined above are as follows:

Group I—Areas in which over 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties".

Group II—Areas in which between 150 and 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III—Areas in which 50 to 150 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV—Areas in which under 50 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Slight, that is, in general it is that which would exist under conditions of full employment according to the experience of the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be emphasized that this measure is only a simple and crude means of evaluating short-term relative levels of unemployment from area to area. There are many aspects of the local situation which are not reflected in the measure, such as the period of employability, the number of insured workers who have exhausted their benefits, the proportion of veterans unemployed, and the vociferousness of the local organizations. It is impractical to develop a measure which would reflect all aspects of the local situation. The ratio used, therefore, can only be depended upon to indicate in general where more detailed investigation is necessary. Such investigation should provide some information on which administrative policy can be based. The textual analysis presented for each area in the remainder of this section is an attempt to outline briefly these specific aspects. Detailed studies of certain areas will be embodied in this report from time to time.

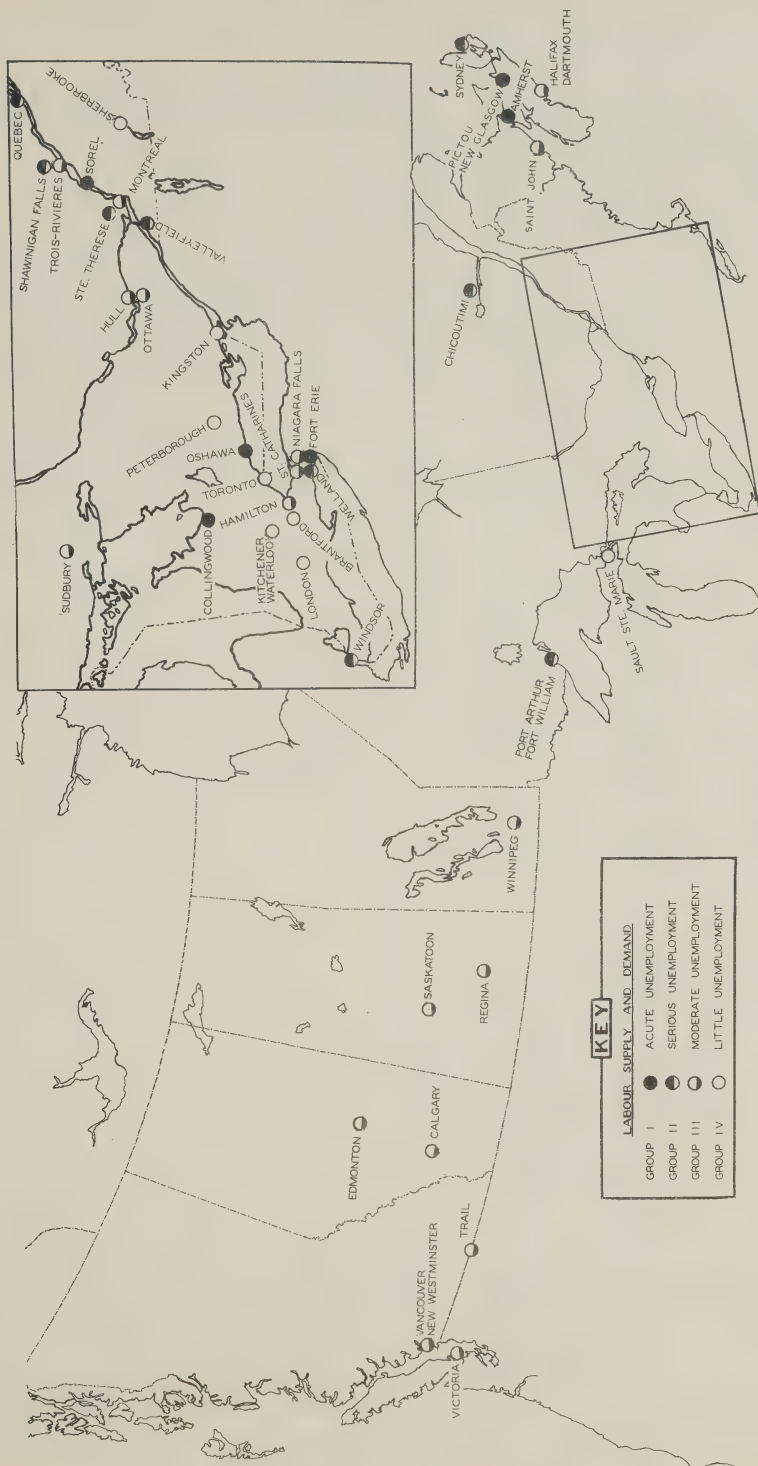
Accompanying the individual area analysis in the remainder of this section is a table presenting selected data of labour demand and supply. For purpose of comparison, a similar table for Canada as a whole is shown below:

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	75,515	263,425	18.2	96.0	61.5	72,305	27.4	19.1
Mar. 28/46	82,747	266,428	18.4	95.9	—	83,029	31.2	22.9
Apr. 11/46	92,331	262,681	18.1	95.2	Employment Estimate - 2,741,300			

On the following page is presented a table which shows the group rating for each area as at April 11, 1946, with comparable ratings for March 14, 1946, and February 14, 1946. In this table is also shown the page number for each area that is analyzed in the remainder of this section. Reference to any area can, therefore, be made more easily.

The figure accompanying the title of each textual area analysis in the remainder of this section (from pages 74 to 94 inclusive) represents the number unemployed per 1,000 employed workers in each area.

A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT APRIL 11, 1946



KEY	
LABOUR SUPPLY AND DEMAND	
GROUP I	● ACUTE UNEMPLOYMENT
GROUP II	● SERIOUS UNEMPLOYMENT
GROUP III	○ MODERATE UNEMPLOYMENT
GROUP IV	○ LITTLE UNEMPLOYMENT

NOTE - CORRECTION CHART M1-A1
FEBRUARY ISSUE SHOULD READ - AS AT FEBRUARY 14, 1946
MARCH ISSUE SHOULD READ - AS AT MARCH 14, 1946

Index to Areas Analyzed in this Section with Comparable
Ratings for Two Selected Previous Dates

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		Feb. 14, 1946	Mar. 14, 1946	April 11, 1946
74	Fort Erie.....	I	I	I
74	Collingwood.....	I	I	I
75	Oshawa.....	I	I	I
75	Picteu and New Glasgow.....	II	I	I
76	Amherst.....	II	II	I
76	Sorel.....	I	I	I
77	Chicoutimi.....	II	II	II
77	Sydney (a).....	II	II	II
78	Quebec (b).....	II	II	II
78	Fort William and Port Arthur.....	II	II	II
79	Valleyfield.....	II	II	II
79	Welland.....	II	II	II
80	Shawinigan Falls.....	II	II	II
80	Windsor.....	I	II	II
81	Ste. Therese.....	II	II	II
81	Hull.....	III	III	III
82	Vancouver (c).....	III	III	III
83	St. Catharines.....	III	III	III
83	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
83	Winnipeg.....	III	III	III
84	Calgary (d).....	III	III	III
84	Edmonton.....	III	III	III
85	Regina.....	III	III	III
85	Montreal (e).....	III	III	III
86	Sudbury.....	III	III	III
86	Hamilton.....	III	III	III
87	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
87	St. John.....	III	III	III
88	Victoria.....	III	III	III
88	Trail.....	III	III	III
89	Saskatoon.....	III	III	III
89	Halifax.....	IV	III	III
90	Niagara Falls.....	IV	III	III
90	Toronto (f).....	IV	IV	IV
91	Sault Ste. Marie.....	III	IV	IV
91	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
92	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
92	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
93	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
93	London.....	III	III	IV
94	Kitchener - Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV

(a) Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.

(b) Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

(c) Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

(d) Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

(e) Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles, St. Paul
l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

(f) Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

GROUP I

Areas in Which Unemployment is Acute
(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, Over 300 are Unemployed)

FORT ERIE - 826

Situation improving - Primarily a tourist and trade centre, Fort Erie normally reaches peak employment during the summer. This city has not completely recovered from the collapse of the war-inflated aircraft industry, but employment conditions have improved slightly during the past month. Fleet Aircraft has completed its reconversion program, and is slowly swinging into civilian production. Building activity in the district is picking up and employment in printing and publishing, and iron and steel has shown a slight increase during the last four months. Placements from March 7 to April 4 were more than double those of the previous four-week period. The percentage of unemployed veterans to total unemployed at March 28 was 15.7, well below the Canada average. Male clerical workers, other skilled and semi-skilled workers and labourers continue to be in excess supply. Unemployed women are most numerous in the clerical and unskilled labour classifications.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	21	784	42.3	100.0	92.0	98	12.5	11.9
Mar. 28/46	26	753	41.2	100.0	--	118	15.7	15.4
Apr. 11/46	29	661	45.7	100.0	Employment Estimate - 800			

COLLINGWOOD - 771

Situation stable - Employment in shipbuilding and canning, Collingwood's two major industries, has steadily declined since July 1, 1945. Collingwood Shipyards Ltd. recently commenced work on a new ship, but, because of the shortage of steel, construction has been delayed and a number of men released from the yards temporarily. Local canning factories now are idle, activity being suspended until the 1946 vegetable and fruit crops are harvested. The new mass-production furniture factory, Globe Plywood Manufacturing Co., has started production on a limited scale, and expects to have three hundred employees on strength in about two months. Farming activity in this area is now under way, orders to date for farm labourers numbering sixteen. Over half the total number of male unplaced applicants are skilled and semi-skilled metal workers, and labourers. Female job seekers are largely clerical workers, skilled and semi-skilled metal workers, and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	55	818	19.9	99.6	90.2	148	18.1	14.7
Mar. 28/46	61	806	20.3	99.6	--	172	21.3	20.2
Apr. 11/46	48	771	20.4	100.0	Employment Estimate - 1,000			

OSHAWA - 509

Situation improving — On April 8, General Motors resumed operations after a 13-week period of enforced idleness. This company, the largest single employer of labour in Oshawa, was compelled to close down on December 31, 1945, because of the stoppage of the flow of materials from the United States during the General Motors strike. Despite the fact that approximately 2,000 General Motors employees will be recalled during April, there will still remain a serious labour surplus in this city. No large scale re-hiring is scheduled to take place in the local "feeder" plants, and it will be some time before the automotive industry recovers from the adverse effects of the strike. With spring planting now under way in the rural districts, the situation regarding farm labour has again become serious. Farmers in the Oshawa area are extremely short of help, but there are no available applicants for farm work. Male applicants outnumber jobs available by about 12 to 1, labour supply being heaviest in the metal working and unskilled categories. Women applicants are numerous, particularly unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	305	6,403	32.5	98.3	82.2	600	9.4	7.4
Mar. 28/46	362	6,447	32.4	98.7	—	1,476	22.9	14.3
Apr. 11/46	527	6,308	31.2	96.1	Employment Estimate - 12,400			

PICTOU AND NEW GLASGOW - 355

Situation stable — Production of railway rolling stock now forms the mainstay of employment in this area following the complete collapse of war munitions and a drastic decline in shipbuilding activity. Manufacturing plants in the district continue at the same low level of employment as during the last several months, the heavy machine shop of Trenton Industries now operating on skeleton staff. Work has been resumed at the Eastern Car Co. after a four-day labour dispute. Bad weather retards construction and the demand for workers, once the weather clears, will be regulated by the availability of supplies. Demand for farm workers has not been large as yet. When all fish-processing plants are in full operation they will employ approximately 200 workers. There are only 16 vacancies for the 2,571 male applicants most of whom are unskilled workers, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, metalworkers, clerical, sales, and service workers. There is also a large surplus of female clerical, sales and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	100	2,616	10.0	99.6	75.5	734	28.1	21.4
Mar. 28/46	70	2,781	9.4	99.6	—	1,619	36.6	30.1
Apr. 11/46	61	2,837	9.4	99.9	Employment Estimate - 8,000			

AMHERST - 341

Situation stable - Foreign and domestic demand for railway rolling stock has made the Canadian Car and Foundry Co. the backbone of employment in Amherst. This company, however, has not been able to absorb any appreciable portion of the workers laid off from local aircraft parts and textile plants. The Maritime Pant Manufacturing Company has resumed operations upon the receipt of materials. Logging operations are completed and all orders for farm help have been filled to date. Employment in trade and service has not changed a great deal recently. Construction activity is increasing despite unseasonal weather and lack of materials. Canadian National Railways will be doing a great deal of maintenance work as soon as the ground conditions permit. There is very little demand for male applicants, most of whom are unskilled workers, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, metalworkers and construction workers. There are only three job openings for women as compared with 254 applicants, of whom many are unskilled workers, textile workers, clerical and sales workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	6	969	23.2	99.7	59.9	365	37.7	31.4
Mar. 28/46	13	1,105	22.2	99.0	—	430	38.9	34.8
Apr. 11/46	26	1,263	20.1	90.2	Employment Estimate — 3,700			

SOREL - 329

Situation improving — The collapse of war-created employment in shipbuilding and munitions has caused a severe unemployment problem. Many of these men prefer to remain on unemployment insurance benefits rather than retire from the employment field or accept work elsewhere. As previously stated, Marine Industries Limited will expand from a present strength of 1,500 men to a peak of 3,000 men by June or July. This company has received some steel supplies and already several hundred additional men have been hired. When this peak is reached it will represent 50 per cent of top war strength. Employment in Sorrel Industries Limited, at one quarter of peak war strength, has remained stable for the last several months, and as yet company officials do not know what will become of this industry. Most of the men remaining idle are metalworkers, unskilled workers, construction workers and miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers. Female unplaced applicants are greatly diversified but demand is confined to textile and service workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	15	2,553	8.2	100.0	85.9	63	2.5	2.0
Mar. 28/46	254	2,404	3.8	99.2	—	79	3.3	3.1
Apr. 11/46	95	2,206	11.8	100.0	Employment Estimate — 6,700			

Areas in Which Unemployment is Serious
(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, from 150 to 300 are Unemployed)

CHICOUTIMI - 280

Situation stable—Although employment in the aluminum industry has dropped 9,000 since March 1, 1943, the peak production month during the war, at the present time less than 2,000 persons are registered for jobs in the Chicoutimi local office. This city is rated seventh most serious of the 41 "danger areas" in Canada, but the situation would be far worse if it were not for the substantial migration of workers from the district. Currently 2,000 workers are engaged in bush work, a large number for this time of year. The majority of these men will be re-hired for the river driving operations, which will soon be underway. Construction activity is still very quiet, but it is expected that this industry will open up early in May. The Roberval and Saguenay Railway Company plan to hire 50 to 75 additional men for their track repair program during the summer. Currently there is an overall surplus of male labour, the heavy labour class being most crowded. With the exception of domestic workers there is little demand for female help. Clerical and sales workers by far outnumber jobs available.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 days
Feb. 28/46	1,232	1,251	11.7	99.0	85.7	69	5.5	3.9
Mar. 28/46	1,141	1,346	12.7	97.6	-	98	7.3	4.7
Apr. 11/46	788	1,402	11.8	97.8	Employment Estimate-5,000			

SYDNEY - 259

Situation becoming worse—The steel plants in Sydney are maintaining a high level of employment but unemployment in this region is severe. Even with the necessary materials available and public works projects in motion, three-quarters of the unemployed still could not be placed. There are only 50 jobs open, apart from coal mining vacancies which are being filled by skilled veterans. There are 4,898 men unemployed, approximately 50 per-cent of whom are Veterans. Local fishermen are preparing for the lobster season which opens on May 1. Fish plant requirements were eased by the import of 34 experienced men from Newfoundland. All carpenters are idle because of material shortages, and if the material priority now being sought for the Sydney area, is granted this situation will improve greatly. Veterans are being given preference in all cases. Most of the men idle are unskilled workers, truck drivers, metalworkers, construction tradesmen, electricians and service workers. Requirements for female labour are very light except for service workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 days
Feb. 28/46	390	3,901	12.3	99.6	42.3	1,769	45.3	36.1
Mar. 28/46	498	4,620	12.3	99.2	-	2,207	47.8	40.3
Apr. 11/46	474	4,898	11.5	99.4	Employment Estimate-18,900			

QUEBEC - 253

Situation stable — Both immediate and long term employment prospects in Quebec city are extremely unfavourable. Wartime expansion and subsequent deflation in munitions and shipbuilding left an immovable bulk of displaced workers who cannot be absorbed into the city's economy. Even the expected seasonal upswing in trade and service industries under the stimulation of tourist traffic, and the opening up of various construction projects will not alleviate the burden of unemployment. Any replacement of heavy war-time industry is in the lighter manufacturing field, such as textiles, and thus does not absorb the types of labour developed during the war. Master Craft Uniform Company recently obtained a new contract from the government and on the strength of this will shortly re-hire 250 of its employees, thus removing a corresponding number from the local office files. The ratio of male applicants to jobs available is almost 20 to 1, heaviest surpluses of male labour existing in the white collar occupations, construction, and unskilled labour classifications. Female job seekers are largely clerical, sales and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	1,025	16,450	32.2	99.1	74.5	1,909	11.6	8.9
Mar. 28/46	442	16,114	32.0	98.8	—	2,120	13.2	10.1
Apr. 11/46	1,159	16,013	32.0	99.0	Employment Estimate - 63,300			

FORT WILLIAM AND PORT ARTHUR - 225

Situation stable — Despite increased activity in trade and services and in pulp and paper manufacturing, overall employment has slumped—particularly in the iron and steel industry involving the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Co. and the Canadian Car and Foundry Co. Woods operators preparing for their spring drive will require about 1,000 men but a large number of workers have returned from pulpwood camps until cutting conditions improve in the woods. The Canadian Car and Foundry Co. will continue to increase their staff as more materials become available for their bus contracts. The Port Arthur Shipbuilding Co. continues to lay off men. Carpenters and labourers are required for out-of-town work. Of the 530 veterans on the live files, over 300 are receiving out-of-work benefits. There are many male unskilled workers, miscellaneous workers, metalworkers and clerical workers unemployed. Of the many idle female applicants, 74 percent are clerical and sales workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	2,076	4,403	34.3	94.1	66.6	988	22.4	14.6
Mar. 28/46	1,777	4,736	31.0	94.9	—	1,067	22.5	13.8
Apr. 11/46	2,067	4,858	30.0	92.3	Employment Estimate - 21,600			

VALLEYFIELD - 204

Situation stable — The most important manufacturers in this area during the war were Defence Industries Limited and Montreal Cottons. Since the end of the war, employment at the Defence Industries explosive plant has declined sharply. On the other hand, Montreal Cottons, now almost completely reconverted to civilian goods manufacturing, has stepped up production and increased employment by approximately 400 since V.J. day. Despite a marked seasonal upswing in the construction industry, building activity has not yet been of sufficient volume to cause any significant changes in the number of unemployed in this area. At April 11 there were five applicants for every male vacancy. Among the male job seekers, a heavy surplus of clerical workers, carpenters, millwrights, truck drivers and labourers, exists. In the female field, there is an urgent demand for skilled and semi-skilled textile workers, with few applicants available.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	166	1,155	7.2	97.0	79.9	120	10.4	7.0
Mar. 28/46	228	1,195	8.6	93.9	—	137	11.5	5.8
Apr. 11/46	313	1,202	9.7	93.0	Employment Estimate - 5,900			

WELLAND - 198

Situation stable — Unemployment in Welland is chiefly the result of lay-offs in the iron and steel industry wherein a considerable amount of war-time expansion took place. A certain portion of the applicants in this area, however, have "overflowed" from nearby centres where the labour market situation is also unfavourable. This is a common trait of cities in the Niagara district due to their close proximity one to another. Unplaced applicants have remained at approximately 1,500 since the beginning of the year, with unfilled vacancies showing a steady upward movement throughout. Placements during the week ending April 2 were more than double those of the preceding week, with those placed being for the most part unskilled labourers. The percentage of unplaced veterans to total unemployed in Welland is relatively low, 12.5 as compared with the Canada average of 27.4. Skilled and semi-skilled metalworkers and unskilled workers are most numerous among both the male and female unemployed.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	166	1,594	49.1	99.1	72.1	167	10.5	7.3
Mar. 28/46	257	1,516	52.8	97.4	—	190	12.5	7.8
Apr. 11/46	292	1,548	54.1	96.6	Employment Estimate - 7,800			

SHAWINIGAN FALLS - 189

Situation stable—Since October 1945 employment in Shawinigan Chemicals Ltd. has become stabilized, although at the moment 200 men have been laid off for a month because of a shortage of steel barrels. The Aluminum Co. of Canada has reduced employment during the same period but shows definite signs of increased activity. The Consolidated Paper Corporation is working on a full-time basis and is gradually expanding. There are still 1,500 men and 250 women on unemployment insurance, a situation created by a more rapid growth in population than in job opportunities, and a reluctance of former farm workers to return to the land. Expenditures on construction will be higher than last year and building is now becoming more active. Men returning from the woods are adding to the supply of heavy labourers, for which there is no demand at present. Virtually no demand exists for 1,685 male applicants, most of whom are metal workers, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, construction workers, electricians, white collar and service workers. Similarly, there are only fourteen vacancies, twelve of which are for service workers, for the 276 female applicants.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	22	2,071	13.3	100.0	81.4	47	2.3	2.3
Mar. 28/46	22	2,023	14.2	99.7	-	84	4.2	1.6
Apr. 11/46	21	1,962	14.1	99.9	Employment Estimate - 10,400			

WINDSOR - 166

Situation improving—Employment conditions continue to grow more favourable. The Ford Motor Company has hired more than 700 new employees during April; Chrysler Corporation recently released 118 men but most of these will be placed without difficulty. The automobile industry is not planning immediate re-tooling for new motors due to uncertainties concerning labour conditions and raw materials supplies, thus the usual seasonal activity in small parts manufacturing plants is held up. The supply of farm help for Essex County has been adequate to date. The construction industry is very active but applicants still outnumber jobs available. The unemployed, especially unplaced veterans, are decreasing rapidly each week, although large numbers of light and heavy labourers, metalworkers, truck drivers, clerical and sales workers, are yet without jobs. In the female field a heavy surplus of labour remains, particularly in the metalworking, clerical, sales, and service occupations, while the few openings are chiefly for experienced office help, and waitresses.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	370	17,165	13.7	99.5	53.4	2,449	14.3	12.5
Mar. 28/46	599	8,315	23.2	98.7	-	2,325	23.0	24.5
Apr. 11/46	866	7,861	26.3	94.3	Employment Estimate 47,400			

STE. THERESE - 160

Situation improving -- Despite the fact that Defence Industries Limited has released almost 4,000 workers during the past year, less than 700 persons are now unemployed in Ste. Therese. As alternative employment opportunities were extremely limited, this comparatively favourable situation results from the large-scale migration of displaced workers to near-by cities, Montreal in particular. The remaining labour surplus forms a relatively light burden on the economy of the area because of the high proportion of unemployed coming under the coverage of Unemployment Insurance. Between June 1, 1945 and March 1, 1946, the lumber (rough and dressed) and garment manufacturing industries showed the greatest employment increases, but these were negligible in comparison with losses in munitions manufacturing. Currently, skilled woodworkers, carpenters, and moulders are much in demand while there is a surplus supply of clerical workers, truck drivers and unskilled labourers. Among female applicants clerical workers and unskilled workers are most numerous.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	212	767	23.1	95.4	79.3	32	4.2	3.1
Mar. 28/46	230	756	27.5	96.4	--	36	4.8	3.0
Apr. 11/46	266	674	30.6	96.4	Employment Estimate - 4,200			

GROUP III

Areas in Which Unemployment is Moderate

(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, from 50 to 150 are Unemployed)

HULL - 138

Situation stable -- There has been little improvement in the Hull area during the past month. Although employment opportunities are increasing, the total number of unplaced applicants has not lessened during this period. The Woods Manufacturing Company is building a \$50,000 extension to their Hull factory and will require 75 additional employees when this project is completed. Activity in the construction industry is increasing but although there are a large number of construction workers available, few have sufficient training to satisfy employers' current requirements. To help relieve this situation the Commission d'Apprentissage du District de Hull has been formed. This organization is arranging classroom and "on the job" instruction for prospective construction workers. Among male unemployed seven per cent are classed as clerical workers; nine per cent, construction workers; eight per cent, truck drivers; and forty-five per cent, unskilled workers. In the female field, demand is heavy for domestic workers and sewing-machine operators whereas supply is made up largely of clerical and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	448	1,137	10.3	96.1	61.3	412	36.2	30.1
Mar. 28/46	536	1,506	8.3	97.3	--	553	36.7	24.4
Apr. 11/46	643	1,531	10.5	94.8	Employment Estimate - 11,100			

VANCOUVER - 132

Situation improving — Unemployment, a result of previous mass lay-offs in the aircraft and shipbuilding industries, is still severe despite expanded employment in lumber products (rough and dressed), fuel and power, and electrical products manufacturing. Activity in the retail and wholesale trade and in building construction is picking up, and manpower in transportation has been maintained. There is a definite shortage of skilled men for logging camps and saw mills. Pulp and paper mills are now working full time and can absorb all the labourers they can obtain. Mines in the north are preparing to re-open, creating a large demand for miners and labourers. More unskilled construction workers are required as the weather clears. Male unplaced applicants to unfilled vacancies are nearly ten to one, most of the former being unskilled labourers, miscellaneous workers, metalworkers and serviceworkers. The majority of the idle women workers are miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, clerical workers and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	3,948	24,208	19.5	94.7	58.1	8,019	33.1	24.6
Mar. 28/46	3,921	24,037	18.9	95.0	—	8,099	33.7	32.3
Apr. 11/46	4,563	23,340	17.9	94.7	Employment Estimate - 177,000			

ST. CATHARINES - 123

Situation improving - Total manufacturing employment decreased slightly between October 1, 1945, and February 1, 1946. However, during the same period sizeable increases occurred in shipbuilding, boilers and engines, electrical apparatus, pulp and paper, and textiles. Since December 1, the number of unplaced veterans has doubled, there being a marked tendency on the part of ex-servicemen as well as other job seekers to move to St. Catharines from other less diversified industrial areas in the Niagara Peninsula. Farming and construction experienced a seasonal rise in employment during March and April; both industries are extremely short of experienced help. Skilled and semi-skilled metalworkers are most numerous among the male unemployed, many of whom have received only a highly specialized training suited to war industry, and thus do not possess the full qualifications necessary for a peacetime job. Female job seekers are largely clerical and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	226	3,569	30.5	99.2	72.4	620	17.4	12.6
Mar. 28/46	491	3,235	33.3	98.5	—	708	21.9	16.0
Apr. 11/46	532	3,147	33.1	97.8	Employment Estimate - 25,600			

THREE RIVERS - 113

Situation becoming worse—Three Rivers has not yet recovered from the post-war decline in the munitions industry. There is still a substantial amount of unemployment in this city, and in spite of increased construction activity the number of unplaced applicants continues to rise. Improved conditions will depend on whether or not new industries of sufficient size to absorb the labour surplus are established here. Local contractors expect the busiest season in many years, having numerous contracts on hand for both the construction of private homes and public works projects. Placements have shown a decided increase during the past four weeks, but have been confined largely to labourers. The number of unplaced veterans in the unskilled class has been reduced by two-thirds during the same period. There continues to be a heavy surplus of male clerical workers, skilled and semi-skilled metal workers, truck drivers, and labourers. Among the female unplaced applicants, clerical workers, waitresses, sewing machine operators, and unskilled workers are most numerous.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	170	3,374	23.9	97.8	68.6	288	8.5	6.1
Mar. 28/46	201	3,373	23.3	97.3	-	375	11.1	6.1
Apr. 11/46	232	3,455	23.6	96.3	Employment Estimate - 30,600			

WINNIPEG - 112

Situation improving—Since October 1, 1945, employment in textiles and whole-sale trade has increased, and employment in chemicals and iron and steel has been sustained except for a slump in the manufacturing of machinery. Extensive seasonal lay-offs have tapered off and now chiefly effect women. Additional labour now is required in manufacturing, textiles, and building materials manufacturing. There is a steady demand for construction labourers. Many veterans will not accept work of a seasonal nature and others do not possess the necessary qualifications for the jobs for which they are listed. The automobile business is becoming increasingly active. Farm workers are in rapidly increasing demand, with many orders on hand for good tractor operators. Some logging companies plan on cutting all summer, a few men being absorbed daily. There is still a large surplus of heavy labourers, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, construction workers, "white collar", service and agricultural workers. Demand is high for female service and textile workers, while the opposite is true for clerical, sales, and unskilled labour.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	2,177	13,928	21.6	92.8	49.5	5,416	38.9	30.3
Mar. 28/46	2,370	14,389	18.4	93.8	-	6,300	43.8	35.0
Apr. 11/46	3,013	14,393	17.3	95.1	Employment Estimate - 128,100			

CALGARY - 99

Situation improving — Employment in petroleum manufacturing, electrical products and lumbering has increased since October 1945, but manufacturing as a whole has declined. Foodstuffs have maintained a high level of employment considering seasonal fluctuations. Sufficient applicants are available to supply the sharp increase in demand for general farm hands. Construction, trade and services have expanded. Many service applicants are available, but there is already a scarcity of good carpenters for building construction, numerous registrants being elderly or partially skilled. A large number of veterans are idle, most of whom have had no previous employment experience. Most of the men unemployed are unskilled workers, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, white collar and service workers, and metalworkers. Demand is high for female service workers but many sales, clerical, and unskilled workers are unemployed.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	754	4,848	16.3	96.8	46.3	2,194	45.3	33.6
Mar. 28/46	947	4,652	14.4	95.7	—	2,244	48.2	37.1
Apr. 11/46	1,119	4,411	14.4	94.9	Employment Estimate - 44,600			

EDMONTON - 91

Situation stable - Employment in iron and steel manufacturing, vehicle production and textile manufacturing has increased since October 1945, while manpower engaged in the production of foodstuffs remains high, considering seasonal changes. Non-manufacturing industries show a small overall decline, principally in air and rail transportation. Orders are being placed for farm hands; requirements for bush labour are at a standstill; and demand for construction labourers is not as large as had been expected. Most small coal mines in the district have closed down and miners are showing a reluctance to accept work elsewhere. The Yellowknife area is suffering from a general shortage of supplies. As jobs are limited in number, most discharged men are applying for out-of-work benefits. There are many male unskilled workers, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, clerical and sales workers, and agricultural workers idle. Demand is high for female service workers, but as usual, many clerical, sales, and unskilled workers are unemployed.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	1,138	5,198	17.7	96.2	39.6	2,388	45.9	24.1
Mar. 28/46	1,265	5,601	14.6	96.8	—	2,880	51.4	28.9
Apr. 11/46	1,450	5,900	14.4	94.5	Employment Estimate - 64,600			

REGINA - 89

Situation improving — Employment in retail and wholesale trade in Regina is showing an added improvement, and transportation employment is stable. Building construction is in full swing and the supply of good men is being rapidly depleted. Saskatchewan Pool Elevators had to cancel an order for 300 carpenters, labourers, and repairmen because of an inability to secure a definite date as to when materials will become available. The trend of employment is upward as vacancies increase. Applicants remain fairly stable because veterans continue to register for employment, but a satisfactory proportion of these men are being placed. Applicants are being encouraged to change their occupational registration to one which will afford them a more reasonable opportunity of obtaining work. There is no labour demand in manufacturing. Most of the men now idle are truck drivers, white collar workers, sales and clerical workers, and agricultural workers. Demand for female workers nearly equals the supply, but a large number of present vacancies are for service workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	539	2,393	20.1	94.1	47.5	1,135	47.4	43.1
Mar. 28/46	1,519	2,471	16.1	91.9	—	1,117	45.2	41.3
Apr. 11/46	1,158	2,448	17.4	90.8	Employment Estimate - 27,600			

MONTREAL - 84

Situation improving — Although expansion in manufacturing continues to be retarded by shortages of materials, a seasonal upward trend is evident in the transportation, trade and construction industries. All indications point to the fact that the peak of unemployment in this area has been passed. The labour situation, i.e. a shortage of female help and a surplus of male labour, is unchanged. Numerically, the labour surplus is large, but in relation to the total labour force, unemployment in Montreal is not serious. There has been a noticeable drop in unemployed veterans who are skilled or semi-skilled, but the number of idle ex-servicemen in the white collar and clerical group remains large. Among male unemployed there is a large surplus of the following types of workers: clerical workers, sales workers, electricians, carpenters, painters, machinists, aircraft assemblers, truck and tractor drivers, other skilled and semi-skilled, heavy labourers, and light labourers, factory and other. Among female workers, the remaining labour supply is made up of unqualified or older workers and of married women.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	13,484	40,000	14.9	95.8	71.9	7,653	19.1	12.2
Mar. 28/46	15,336	39,801	16.3	95.1	—	7,295	18.3	12.2
Apr. 11/46	15,257	37,263	16.1	93.6	Employment Estimate - 441,300			

SUDEBURY - 80

Situation stable—Although nickel production has dropped somewhat since the end of the war, increased activity in other industries has prevented any serious unemployment problem developing in Sudbury. International Nickel has started construction work on a new pilot mill in Copper Cliff. At the present time 240 men are employed on this project and this figure is expected to reach 500 at the peak of construction activity. Dominion Tar and Chemical are also expanding, recently doubling capacity at their Copper Cliff cresosoting plant. During the war, when materials and labour were scarce, a considerable backlog of demand for chemically treated telephone poles and railroad ties was built up, and this year promises to be the busiest in the company's history. As at March 28, unplaced Veterans comprised 19.4 per cent of total unemployed as compared with 27.4 per cent, the average for Canada at the same date. Among the male unemployed, hard rock miners, unskilled mine workers, and heavy labourers are most numerous. Few employment opportunities are available for female job seekers except in the service occupations. Over 70 per cent of the unemployed women are clerical, sales, or unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	535	2,006	29.1	84.4	52.3	334	16.7	13.5
Mar. 28/46	325	2,190	29.3	89.3	-	424	19.4	11.9
Apr. 11/46	392	2,064	30.9	89.1	Employment Estimate - 25,900			

HAMILTON - 78

Situation stable—During the past six months there has been a decided shift from war to civilian industry, with most noticeable employment increases occurring in pig iron production, agricultural implement and machinery manufacturing, and textiles. The general seasonal low in employment during the first part of the year was further aggravated by lay-offs in plants affected by the steel strike in the United States. Conditions are now beginning to improve, unplaced applicants becoming less numerous, and vacancies increasing weekly. Skilled textile workers, bricklayers, moulders, core makers, and construction labourers are urgently required. There continues to be a heavy surplus of male clerical workers, salesmen, machinists, truck drivers, and unskilled workers. Numerically female labour demand and supply is evenly balanced, but, while clerical, sales, and unskilled workers are numerous, domestic help and textile workers are difficult to obtain.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	1,704	6,310	21.1	95.3	71.4	2,003	31.7	20.8
Mar. 28/46	2,329	6,458	21.9	95.4	-	1,797	27.8	21.4
Apr. 11/46	2,385	6,258	21.8	94.7	Employment Estimate - 81,100			

OTTAWA - 73

Situation improving - Unfilled vacancies remained stable during January and February, but took a sharp upward turn at the end of March. Demand for farm labour and construction workers is increasing daily as the spring season advances. Although there is still a heavy surplus of unskilled labourers and truck drivers, it is expected that these workers will be absorbed when construction and road work has advanced further. The percentage of unplaced veterans to total unplaced applicants has varied only slightly since January 1, indicating that large numbers of ex-servicemen are being absorbed by the local labour market. Although there is a heavy demand for lower salaried and commissioned "white collar" workers such as junior clerks and insurance salesmen, it is difficult to find suitable applicants. The local office is endeavouring to have applicants name an alternative occupation in order to facilitate their placement. Stenographers and typists are still in demand; over 100 stenographers could be placed immediately if available. Domestic workers are practically non-existent, and waitresses and counter girls are in exceedingly short supply.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	1,308	3,719	17.1	95.8	43.3	1,472	39.6	26.3
Mar. 28/46	1,623	4,091	17.7	94.9	-	1,684	41.2	28.6
Apr. 11/46	1,949	4,121	20.0	95.0	Employment Estimate - 56,600			

SAINT JOHN - 72

Situation stable - Shipbuilding as a major source of employment has steadily declined since the end of the war, and further lay-offs are anticipated. As Saint John is the trade and service centre for a considerable area, these industries have remained busy. Fishing is at a standstill, forestry work is nearly finished for the season, and manufacturing shows virtually no demand for labour at present. Construction on Wartime Housing projects is progressing well and all skilled construction tradesmen are employed. Many of the carpenters idle are insufficiently skilled. A slump is expected in work presently engaging many C.P.R. truckers and general longshoremen about the first of May, this being the usual seasonal decline caused by the opening of navigation on the St. Lawrence river. There is still a large number of men idle—particularly unskilled workers, truck and tractor drivers, metalworkers, service and clerical workers. The shortage of female labour still persists and demand is especially heavy for service workers and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	814	1,673	9.7	97.4	31.1	929	55.5	37.7
Mar. 28/46	551	1,842	6.5	97.4	-	1,007	54.7	37.9
Apr. 11/46	666	1,995	5.4	95.8	Employment Estimate - 27,600			

VICTORIA - 71

Situation stable—Although unemployment in Victoria is declining, the only notable growth of employment has been in shipping and water transport, and in the retail and wholesale trades, with a small gain in chemical manufacturing. Demand for agricultural workers is not as large as might be expected. Logging camps and sawmills are busier, but a current scarcity of applicants exists. There are still many shipyard workers idle. The volume of building construction has hit an all-time high, with an increasing demand developing for skilled tradesmen and labourers. Particular attention is being given to placement of the large number of unskilled labourers, a difficult job due to the wide range of wages on various jobs. There are also many metalworkers, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers and service workers unemployed. Demand is high for female service workers, but many unskilled and clerical workers are still idle.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 days
Feb. 28/46	909	3,310	15.9	96.4	48.7	1,376	41.6	26.2
Mar. 28/46	1,011	3,046	15.8	96.1	-	1,377	45.2	29.4
Apr. 11/46	1,222	3,051	16.8	95.7	Employment Estimate-42,800			

TRAIL - 62

Situation improving—The slight decline in employment in chemical products manufacturing since October 31, 1945, has been counteracted by expansion in the production of non-ferrous metals. The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company has commenced employing new hands, but for the present is confining its requirements to veterans. A large part of the unemployment problem in the area results from this Company's policy of replacing women war workers by veterans, and thus the proportion of unplaced female applicants is very high. All capable construction tradesmen have been absorbed, and a request for four bricklayers is unfilled. The Canadian Pacific Railway requires men for track work. Orders for women are mainly for domestic workers. There are still more women (mostly unskilled) idle than men. Most of the men unemployed are unskilled workers, truck drivers and service workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 days
Feb. 28/46	32	523	60.4	99.6	79.2	72	13.8	11.3
Mar. 28/46	47	516	57.6	98.8	-	44	8.5	4.8
Apr. 11/46	99	511	58.1	94.5	Employment Estimate-8,200			

SASKATOON - 58

Situation improving—Manpower working in the services and in retail and wholesale trade has remained at a satisfactory level. This factor is important because employment in these industries in Saskatoon is nearly twice as large as in manufacturing. The number of workers engaged in foodstuffs production, the only large manufacturing industry, has remained stable since October 31, 1945. There is brisk demand for female service workers but applicants are lacking. Retail and wholesale trade establishments are well staffed and in some cases overstaffed because of re-instatements. In the food industry, the manufacturing of egg powder has opened up again causing a large demand for women, but all requirements for labour can be met locally. As yet there has been no difficulty in filling the substantial orders for farm help. Building construction is in full swing creating a further demand for all types of skilled men, already in short supply. The number of veterans receiving "Out-of-Work-Benefits" has declined slightly. Most of the men unemployed are unskilled workers, truck drivers, and white collar workers. The demand for women is high but principally concerns service workers, leaving a surplus of clerical workers, sales workers, and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	570	2,128	22.6	91.1	38.7	856	40.2	28.5
Mar. 28/46	754	2,392	20.8	88.7	-	1,075	44.9	32.1
Apr. 11/46	906	2,213	19.6	94.0	Employment Estimate - 38,400			

HALIFAX - 54

Situation stable—Shortages of materials are preventing many people from obtaining work. The shortage of sugar products alone is keeping 500 people idle, while lack of building materials is also having an adverse effect on employment, holding up any large building program until more definite information regarding building supplies is available. Employment on the whole is showing an upward trend and with the expected release of building supplies and consumer goods, the demand for workers will increase steadily. The close of the winter port season in Halifax is not expected to cause any marked reduction in traffic passing through this port, other than the usual seasonal lump. Halifax shipyards are busy, giving veterans preference for jobs, but lay-offs are anticipated in the near future. The fishing industry is expanding, creating a good demand for fish handlers and filleters. Twenty-eight new employers have registered, providing jobs for approximately 102 workers. Unemployed men are chiefly unskilled workers, truck drivers, metalworkers and white collar workers. Demand for female help is high, with a shortage of labour in all categories.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	1,283	1,973	14.0	96.2	31.9	822	41.7	12.5
Mar. 28/46	1,653	2,432	12.3	97.9	-	1,166	47.9	27.3
Apr. 11/46	1,704	2,575	13.3	94.8	Employment Estimate - 47,300			

NIAGARA FALLS - 52

Situation improving—The employment situation has brightened somewhat during the past month, mainly due to the fact that construction work is opening up, the Hydro is taking on extra men for right-of-way maintenance work, and various industries in the area are increasing production. The three local abrasive plants have hired additional help and expect further expansion in the near future. At the present time construction work is confined to the building of private houses, but this is of sufficient volume to create a shortage of carpenters, bricklayers and experienced construction labourers. The local office has supplied farmers in the district with more than the usual number of helpers for this time of year, and many requests are still coming in for farm workers. In the female labour field there continues to be a demand for unmarried factory workers, clerical workers, stenographers, and waitresses, but the greater proportion of available applicants are of the older, married type.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	278	851	24.3	96.8	56.3	269	31.6	24.6
Mar. 28/46	281	906	25.4	98.6	-	276	30.5	22.5
Apr. 11/46	276	860	27.1	97.3	Employment Estimate - 16,600			

GROUP IV

Areas in Which Unemployment is Slight

(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, Less Than 50 are Unemployed)

TORONTO - 47

Situation improving—Employment conditions in the Toronto area showed decided improvement in recent weeks. In the last four weeks job opportunities jumped 41 per cent, and placements increased 22 per cent over those four weeks ago. Local offices report that although demand for male workers is large, employers require skilled workers under 45 years of age, while available labour supply is largely composed of partially skilled workers, men over 45, and those who are physically unfit to do heavy labour. The number of applicants for truck driving jobs mounted steadily during the winter, but recently there has been an increased demand in this field. Lake shipping began earlier than usual this spring, but several ships have had to lay off men because of the effects of the coal strike in the United States. Male unemployed comprise the following: professional and managerial workers, clerks, salesmen, mechanics, truck drivers, and unskilled workers. Demand for female workers continues to be heavy, clerical workers, domestic help, textile workers, and unskilled workers being in particularly short supply.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	10,250	16,555	6.3	94.8	58.8	7,612	46.0	30.6
Mar. 28/46	13,485	17,113	7.6	94.2	-	8,415	49.2	34.0
Apr. 11/46	16,139	17,147	7.6	93.1	Employment Estimate - 368,100			

SAULT STE. MARIE - 46

Situation improving — Algoma Steel Corporation, the backbone of employment in Sault Ste. Marie, is working at full capacity and employment is further enhanced by activity in the Michipicoten iron ore field. A vote in favour of striking has been taken at Algoma Steel, but work is continuing for the present and eleven machinists are required. Land transportation is very active and 150 more section hands and extra gang labourers are needed. Agricultural activity is light but many men could be absorbed in forestry and logging operations if such help were available. The mining industry in the Michipicoten area is in need of workers but the supply of suitable men is exhausted. Although construction activity is light, applicants are not numerous and demand will increase early in May. The only men in excess supply are truck drivers, clerical, sales and service workers, and a small number of metal workers and construction workers. On the other hand, there are only five vacancies, three service and two clerical, for the 355 female applicants.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	613	696	56.5	94.4	83.0	52	7.5	7.5
Mar. 28/46	846	737	50.6	97.8	—	113	15.3	7.6
Apr. 11/46	877	672	53.6	94.3	Employment Estimate - 14,700			

PETERBOROUGH - 45

Situation stable — Employment has expanded in the production of iron and steel, electrical apparatus, intermediate lumber products and non-metallic mineral products since October 31, 1945, while other manufacturing has remained stable. Factories now are busier as materials become available, but they are well-manned and demand for help is small. Orders for farm help are extensive but considerable difficulty is being experienced in persuading men to return to the farms. Electrical firms say that wiring material is inadequate to meet the demand of building contractors. A shortage of carpenters and construction labourers exists and it will be difficult to supply the necessary help for forthcoming contracts. Most of the men idle are light factory labourers, truck drivers, clerical and sales workers. Demand is high for female workers, particularly textile, clerical, metalworking and service workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	344	852	11.2	89.3	43.2	417	48.9	38.4
Mar. 28/46	371	954	4.6	93.6	—	473	49.6	39.4
Apr. 11/46	430	972	4.3	93.2	Employment Estimate - 21,500			

KINGSTON - 44

Situation stable—Although job openings in Kingston have increased during the past month, the number of persons seeking employment is greater than it was four weeks ago. At the present time all local manufacturing firms appear to have their full quota of labour, and no large-scale industrial expansion seems imminent. The Engineering and Shipbuilding Company recently released over 200 men, repair work on the lake boats having been completed. This company is unable to commence work on its new contracts because of a shortage of materials. Increased activity in the local construction industry is evident and contractors expect to be busier this year than ever before, providing they can secure the necessary materials. Although farm labourers and construction workers are in exceedingly short supply, there is a surplus of skilled and semi-skilled metal workers, truck drivers and unskilled workers. Female job seekers are largely clerical, sales, and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	243	670	24.5	89.9	51.2	216	32.2	26.0
Mar. 28/46	274	732	25.5	91.3	-	233	31.8	27.5
Apr. 11/46	337	780	17.8	92.9	Employment Estimate - 17,600			

BRANTFORD - 43

Situation stable—Total employment has remained fairly stable during the past twelve-month period, increases in civilian industries, such as agricultural implement manufacturing, compensating for losses in war manufacturing. Brantford occupies a favourable position among the "danger areas" of Canada, and future prospects are bright for this city. Currently, the demand for labour, both skilled and unskilled, is increasing but the number of applicants of suitable age, skill and marital status, is limited. A large number of veterans are unplaced as most of the job openings in Brantford are for skilled tradesmen, whereas the majority of ex-servicemen lack any specific training. Tool and die makers, sheet metal workers, patternmakers, heavy labourers and farm hands are urgently required; male clerical workers, carpenters, truck drivers and unskilled factory workers are greatly in excess of demand. There is a surplus of female labour, but the majority of women job seekers are married or middle-aged and do not satisfy employers' needs.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	460	663	41.3	93.4	62.4	155	20.4	8.6
Mar. 28/46	494	759	39.0	97.4	-	200	27.4	13.8
Apr. 11/46	586	728	39.0	97.0	Employment Estimate - 16,800			

SHERBROOKE - 41

Situation stable - Overall employment in Sherbrooke has been well maintained, even in the secondary iron and steel industries, where a post-war slump was expected. As yet there is no marked agricultural activity. The present shortage of carpenters is expected to become more severe as construction projects gain momentum. The labour dispute at the Canadian Silk Company has been settled amicably. There is no employment activity in the iron and steel industry except for the Union Screen Plate Company of Lennoxville which is very busy. Paton Manufacturing Company is still running on short time because of changes and repairs. There is an acute shortage of boy learners at Julius Kayser Company. A slight increase is evident in the placement of veterans. Most of the non-idle are light labourers, truck and tractor drivers, other skilled and semi-skilled workers, "white collar" and service workers. The shortage of female labour is most severe for unskilled workers and service workers while demand is quite good for clerical and sales workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	324	750	8.8	94.5	59.6	254	33.9	23.7
Mar. 28/46	307	816	11.3	96.3	—	293	35.9	26.7
Apr. 11/46	304	774	11.9	94.3	Employment Estimate - 18,700			

LONDON - 41

Situation improving - On April 11, for the first time in almost five months, unfilled vacancies outnumbered unplaced applicants in the London area. Local labour requirements are showing a definite upward movement, nearly 50 per cent stemming from heavy industry and construction projects. The number of unplaced applicants has decreased considerably, but very few of the remaining job seekers fit employers' current labour needs, because of age or physical unfitness. The acute housing shortage is one of the main drawbacks to industrial expansion, movement of unemployed to London from cities having a labour surplus being impossible because of the lack of accommodation. Currently, orders outstanding for male workers are as follows: farm hands, 93 required; carpenters, 46; mechanics, 41; construction labourers, 78; other heavy labourers, 149. Most numerous among male applicants are professional and managerial workers, clerical and sales workers, and light factory labourers. In the female labour field vacancies outnumber applicants by about 7 to 3, clerical workers and domestic help being particularly difficult to obtain.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Feb. 28/46	1,014	1,491	15.2	91.5	46.8	535	35.9	22.3
Mar. 28/46	1,425	1,341	15.3	91.5	—	523	39.0	21.6
Apr. 11/46	1,583	1,221	17.1	86.1	Employment Estimate - 29,800			

KITCHENER - 5

Situation improving—Kitchener's main problem is one of securing sufficient labour to supply its increasingly active industries. Lack of housing accommodation prevents an influx of workers from other areas. Demand for male help is heaviest in foodstuffs, tanneries, rubber and furniture manufacturing and in iron products. There is an urgent need for skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled construction workers. Auto mechanics and truck drivers are in short supply. Female labour demand is heaviest in leather products, rubber products, textiles and foodstuffs manufacturing, and a continued need for clerical, stenographic, sales and domestic workers exists.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 days
Feb. 28/46	1,150	176	13.6	71.0	25.0	76	43.2	5.1
Mar. 28/46	1,463	183	8.7	79.2	-	69	37.7	6.6
Apr. 11/46	1,753	159	10.1	71.7	Employment Estimate - 34,900			

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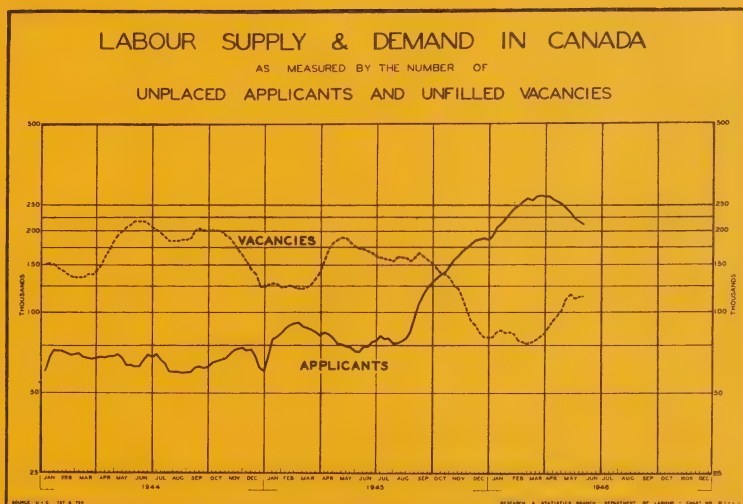
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CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

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AS WE GO TO PRESS

Unemployment in Canada, as measured by the number of unplaced applicants, amounted to 200,000 workers at June 13, 1946. During April of this year there was a drop of 24,000 in unemployment and in May a further drop of 34,000. The last two weeks of May and the first two of June saw a notable slackening in this rate of decline, primarily because of the large number of students who entered the labour market during this period. Thus the decline in unemployment during the first two weeks of June was only about 10,000. As in the preceding months, most of the decline during May and June involved male workers; a drop of 27,000 occurred in May and of 9,000 in the first two weeks of June.

Unfilled vacancies in Canada numbered 119,000 at June 13, 1946. During May, there was an increase of only 3,000 in unfilled jobs, but the first two weeks of June saw a rise of approximately 4,000. In recent weeks a greater variety of jobs has been listed in the offices of the National Employment Service. This factor, along with a substantial surplus of workers which has existed, has meant that the new jobs appearing on the labour market are being filled very rapidly. Thus the number of unfilled jobs over the period has not tended to reflect completely the actual number of new jobs appearing. During May there were actually considerably more jobs listed at the offices of the Employment Service than during April.

Unplaced ex-servicemen numbered about 72,000 at the end of May as compared with 81,000 at the end of the preceding month. This represents the greatest monthly decline since V-J Day in the number of veterans who are without jobs. Of the jobless veterans, 53,000 had been out of work 15 days or more at the end of May. This represented 73 per cent of all unplaced ex-servicemen as compared with 76 per cent at the end of April. On the other hand, the proportion of the total unemployed that are ex-servicemen rose from 33 per cent at the end of April to 34 per cent at the end of May.

Discharges of service personnel during May of this year amounted to about 37,000 as compared with 56,000 in April and 72,000 in March. This brought the total number of releases since the beginning of August, 1945 to approximately 595,000 persons. Forecasts indicate that discharges will number about 20,000 in June and 15,000 in July.

The recent slackening in the rate of decline of unemployment in no way indicates a fundamental modification of the downward trend that has been in effect since the first of April. During May and June the labour force has been augmented by an abnormally large influx of students, and the fact that unemployment continued to drop in spite of these additions suggests that they were readily absorbed into industry. With a continued amelioration of material shortages and of labour management friction, the improvement in employment conditions throughout Canada which has been occurring in the last two or three months will likely continue at least until the normal seasonal peak in employment is reached some time in October.

A classification of Canadian labour market areas as at May 16, 1946 indicates that the employment situation was Acute (in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties") in four areas, and Serious (corresponding to that which occurred in 1939) in seven other areas. The labour market situation in Amherst and Sorel changed from Acute to Serious during the month ending May 16. In Welland, Windsor, Shawinigan Falls and Ste. Therese, the relative level of unemployment changed from Serious to Moderate during the same month.

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PART I

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Section I--DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

The decline in unemployment in Canada is rapidly gaining momentum. In the first two weeks of May the rate of decrease was double that of April. The trend of labour demand has been rather more erratic, however, as uncertainty regarding labour conditions and materials supply has affected expansion in many industries. Labour requirements mounted sharply during April but at May 16 a slight slump occurred in the number of unfilled vacancies as the effect of the American coal strike began to influence employment conditions.

Unemployment totalled 220,900 at May 16, a drop of 22,200 in the previous two weeks. Jobs available numbered 112,000 at May 16, a decline of 300 in the same period. The labour market must have absorbed almost 80,000 workers during April, as 55,800 ex-servicemen were discharged in that month, while the number of unplaced applicants fell by 23,900.

The outstanding development of the current employment situation is the rising wave of industrial unrest throughout the country. Motivated by labour disturbances in the United States, the movement arises out of a co-ordinated effort on the part of union workers to maintain the standard of living achieved during the war. The basic issue of wage-price relationships becomes more acute with every hindrance to production. The tremendous demand for goods created by the re-establishment of veterans, by the founding of "new families", and by the postponement of civilian demand during the war, will continue to exert heavy inflationary pressure until the supply of goods increases. In this critical stage of reconversion, both labour and management are in strong bargaining positions to achieve their respective objectives -- higher wages and higher prices. The ultimate disruption of production schedules and a rising cost of living will be unavoidable if labour relations remain in their present turbulent state.

The increasing emigration of "white collar" workers to the United States in recent months is also of significance. It is estimated that 20,000 Canadian-born persons will migrate in 1946, and this loss is substantial in view of the fact that most of these workers are of a superior calibre. The relaxation of exit permit regulations plus the factor of stricter wage control in Canada, has contributed to the trend. The professional, managerial and clerical workers who form a large proportion of these emigrants are of great value to the economy as the supply of such workers is relatively small in comparison with that of skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labour.

Employment conditions in the Maritime region are beginning to show slight improvement. At the end of April unemployment declined for the first time since the end of the war, and a rise in the number of available jobs was reported. Lack of industrial diversification accounts for the lag in recovery in the Maritimes as compared with other regions. The shortage of capital which has existed over a long period of time has stood in the way of extensive industrial development in this region. This condition arises out of the fact that in the last half-century opportunities for investment have yielded higher rates of return in other sections of the country. The effects of this prolonged capital scarcity have been cumulative, and the solution lies not so much in the application of tariff and subsidization policies aimed at the direct stimulation of manufacturing industries, as in the re-establishment of the fishing and lumbering industries. Once this latter step is taken, secondary manufacturing industries will develop as a natural corollary of the consequent high level of income and expenditure.

Unplaced applicants numbered 30,000 at May 16, a decline of 700 since May 2. Unfilled vacancies rose from 6,800 to 7,200 in the same period. Material shortages are chiefly affecting manufacturing firms in the clothing, leather goods and steel industries. The Sydney steel plant is working steadily although the strike in the electrical department is still in progress. Most manufacturing firms are operating with a sufficient supply of labour to meet present requirement, although skilled workers are needed in the textiles industry. A shortage of about 200 first-class coal miners exists in the Cape Breton area and about 80 are needed in the Minto area. Permanent jobs for 200 farm workers are available throughout the region but the number of applicants is not adequate as yet. River driving continues, and sawmills are now in full operation with an ample supply of labour. Experienced workers, especially cutters and skimmers, are required in most fish-processing plants.

War industry in many areas of the Quebec region was a mushroom growth with no pre-war background of civilian production. Immediate mass reconversion of war plants was therefore not as extensive as in Ontario, since many plants closed down completely. In many industries such as clothing and foodstuffs, the return to peacetime production involved diverting goods from military to civilian channels, rather than re-tooling factories. Thus shortages of parts and equipment needed in reconversion are not as acute in Quebec as in Ontario. Existing material shortages are largely a result of the export controls of other countries -- the clothing and leather goods industries being particularly affected; and of similar action curtailing supplies of parts in the radio and electrical appliance field.

Unplaced applicants totalled 68,400 in Quebec at May 16, having declined 9,400 since May 2. Unfilled vacancies numbered 35,300 a rise of only 900 in the same period; American and domestic labour disturbances have been the major hindrance to expansion. The coal crisis is reflected by decreased activity in primary steel plants whose depleted coal stocks cannot quickly be replenished. Production in the footwear industry continues to rise despite the shortage of skilled operators. Building material firms are working at full capacity, although labour turnover is high. Strikes in the textile industry are further delaying production, which is

already seriously hampered by shortages of raw materials and skilled workers. Plant expansion is nevertheless taking place in this industry and also in the furniture, rubber and automotive fields. The farm labour situation is acute, and unemployment insurance benefits will not be paid in future to male applicants with previous agricultural experience who will not accept suitable farm work. Sawmills and river driving operations are in full swing, sufficient men being available. Hard rock mining areas, Val d'Or in particular, are in urgent need of experienced miners and beginners, but the possibility of meeting the demand is remote owing to housing difficulties and to the scarcity of trained workers. New construction projects are steadily increasing but shortage of building supplies impedes progress. Labour conditions are unsettled in this industry, pending settlement of wage increase demands. The overall decline in unemployment among female workers in the Quebec region is chiefly due to a large drop in one centre, Montreal; heavy surpluses of labour are still present in nearly all other areas.

The economy of the Ontario region is most closely associated with developments in the United States. The fact that tremendous industrial reconversion was necessary in this province, which alone supported almost half of total war manufacturing employment, served to increase dependence on American parts, equipment and raw material supplies for the resumption of civilian production. The coal strike has thus had a most crushing effect on industrial activity, cities such as Windsor, Oshawa and Guelph suffering further setbacks and mass lay-offs.

Unplaced applicants totalled 58,300 in Ontario at May 16, having fallen 6,400 since May 2. Vacancies rose only 100 in the same period to stand at 45,600. In areas not affected by the coal strike, manufacturing industries are experiencing difficulty in securing workers of the type and qualifications required. At various highly-industrialized points such as Kitchener and St. Catharines the housing situation is holding up employment expansion. Metal workers are needed in agricultural implement plants and other heavy industries -- moulders, coremakers, foundry operators and sheet metal workers being in heavy demand. Rubber workers are required at Kitchener, Welland, and New Toronto. Textile workers are urgently needed at Galt and Guelph but low wages impede placements. Material shortages are hampering firms in the leather products and furniture industries. Farm orders received are decreasing slightly but those at present on file are difficult to fill and importation of Western help will be necessary. The demand for construction workers is growing steadily but experienced applicants are few. Sawmill operations are in full swing, and slight shortages of general mill hands are reported in some areas. Base metal mining at Sudbury is expanding, and 700 men formerly laid-off have recently been recalled. Increased mineral production in the first three months of 1946 is due chiefly to the larger supply of labour.

The lack of industrial diversification in the Prairie makes this region extremely dependent on world demand for its chief product, wheat; the Prairie economy is also very sensitive to price fluctuations in Eastern Canada. In such an economy, a highway and railway network is of fundamental importance and thus governmental activity has always bulked larger than in other regions. Past trends have been the draining of surplus prairie income to the East and an outward shift of population to the West. During the war, the heavy demand for foodstuffs and unusually high activity in transportation

and services was conducive to general prosperity, which is currently being extended by agricultural commitments abroad. The basic problem remains one of maintaining foreign markets.

Unplaced applicants numbered 36,800 in the Prairie region at May 16, a decline of 3,500 since May 2. Unfilled vacancies fell by 1,300 in the same period, to stand at 16,400 at May 16. Lay-offs continue at meat-packing plants. Building supply firms are expanding operations, although material shortages are hampering sash-and-door factories. Foundry activity is increasing at Fort William and Saskatoon. Seeding has been completed in most areas without any serious farm labour shortages being reported. Small surpluses of farm help are now appearing in some districts, but such workers can usually be absorbed in construction, sawmills, section gangs, etc. Pulpwood cutters are urgently required in Ontario and Manitoba logging districts, and prop cutters and millhands are needed in Alberta forests. Development and exploration work at The Pas and Flin Flon is stimulating orders for mining crews. Base metal mining operations are expanding at Steep Rock; production and employment in most Alberta coal mines remains stable.

Wartime industrialization in the Pacific region has left a host of problems in its wake. In the shipbuilding and aircraft industries, and in smaller sub-contracting plants, there are 40,000 fewer jobs than there were a year ago. To further complicate matters more than 50,000 veterans have been discharged in British Columbia during the past eight months. Lack of key men in the primary industries -- logging, mining and construction -- is holding up employment for hundreds of other workers. This predicament results from the absence of job training in such industries prior to the war. Analysis of the current unemployed shows that older men lack training or are physically unfit, many younger men are unwilling to postpone their re-establishment in order to learn a trade, while women are reluctant to accept prosaic work in laundries, restaurants and hospitals after their well-paid wartime jobs.

Unplaced applicants totalled 27,300 in the Pacific region at May 16, a decline of 2,500 since May 2. Unfilled vacancies fell 400 in the same period to stand at 9,500. The current strikes in the lumber industry and in the foundries have left employment conditions in a state of flux. The shortage of steel in the shipbuilding industry has eased somewhat, but yards are now feeling the effects of the lumber and foundry disputes. A serious shutdown of construction projects is expected and many contractors have ceased to place orders for labour. Labour unrest in the mining industry is affecting placements. The base metals industry is expanding operations and plans are underway for developmental work in the Nelson and Trail areas. A serious shortage of labour exists in fish packing plants as the halibut season is in full swing with excellent catches being reported. Female farm workers are being recruited in the Prairie region for work on North Okanagan and Fraser Valley farms.

Unemployment

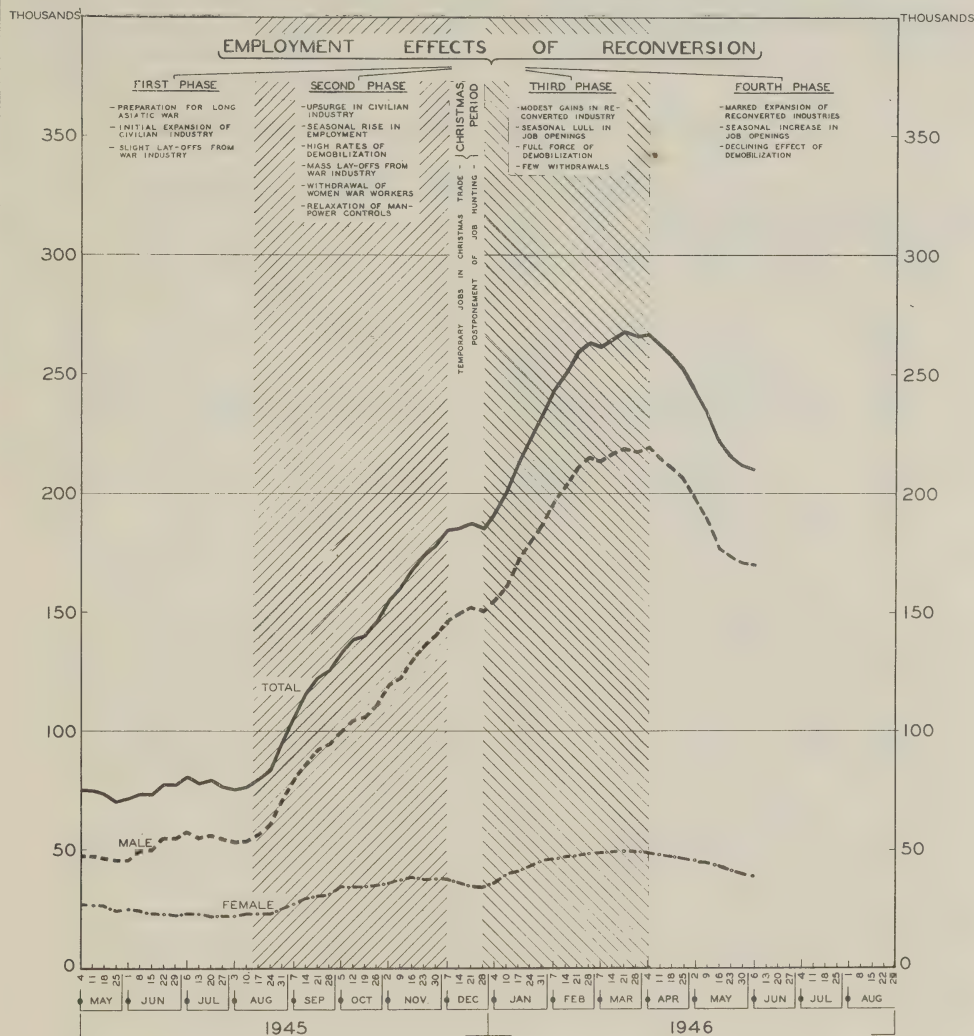
At May 16, 1946, the number registered as unemployed totalled 220,856. This represents a decline of 22,210 in the first two weeks of May, as compared with a drop of 23,918 during the whole of April. This indicates that the unemployed are being absorbed into the labour market at a rapidly-increasing

UNEMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

AS MEASURED BY THE NUMBER OF

UNPLACED APPLICANTS

REPORTING TO THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



SOURCE: ADVANCE REPORT ON LABOUR SUPPLY & DEMAND

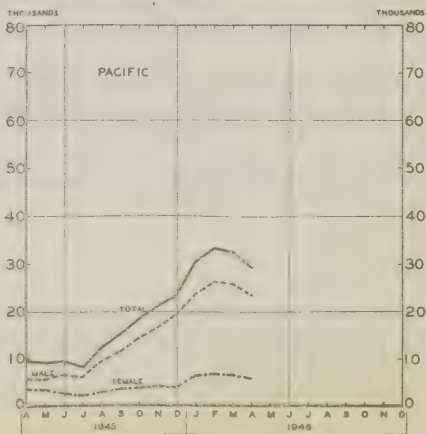
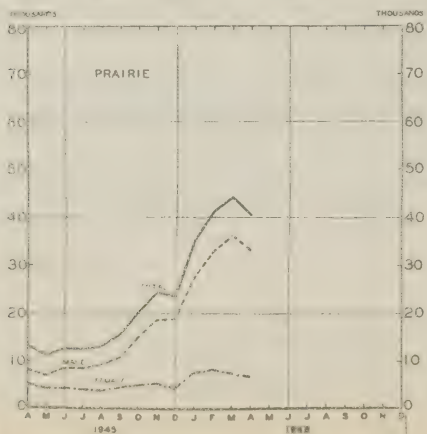
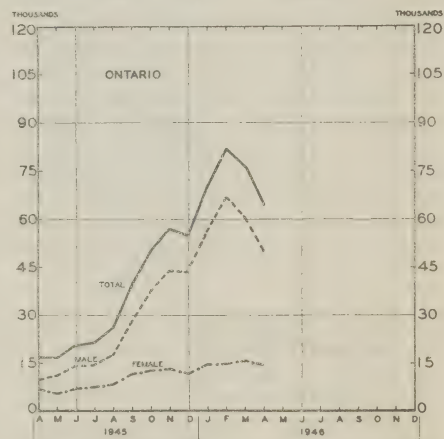
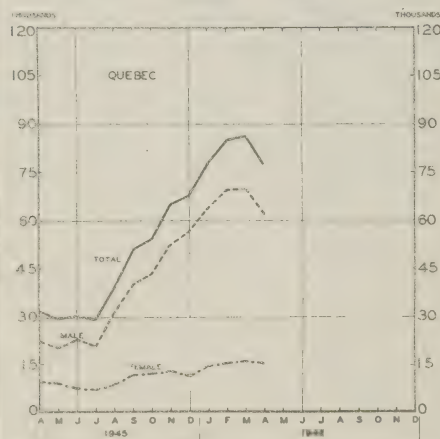
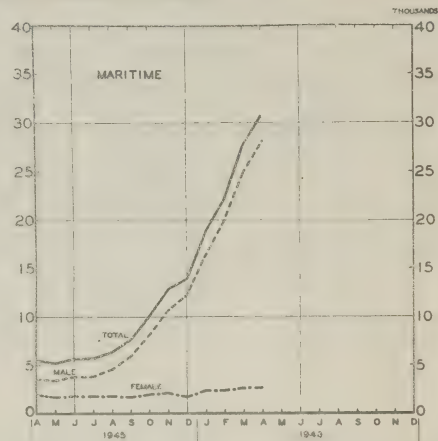
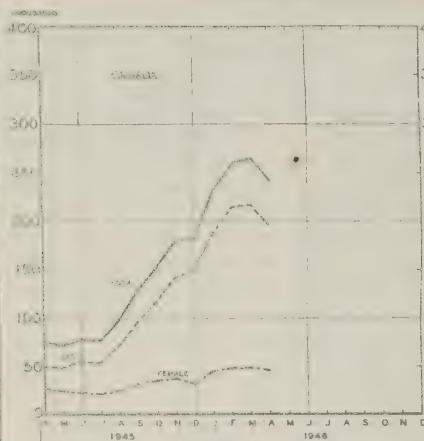
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REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

AS MEASURED BY THE NUMBER OF

UNPLACED APPLICANTS

REPORTING TO THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



rate, despite obstacles of material and key labour shortages, Industries now undergoing seasonal expansion are chiefly in need of male workers and consequently there is a decided improvement in employment opportunities for male unplaced applicants. These numbered 177,106 at May 16, 20,306 less than at May 2. Female unplaced applicants were 43,750 at May 16, 1904 less than at May 2. The proportion of unreferred applicants (workers registered as unplaced who have not yet been referred to jobs) to all unplaced applicants was 92.9 per cent at May 16, as compared with 95.1 per cent registered at April 11.

Table I—Unplaced and Unreferred Applicants in Canada at Selected Dates

(Source: Form UIC 757-759)

Date		Unplaced Applicants (1)	Unreferred Applicants (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
June	1, 1945.....	69,906	40,838	58.4
August	31, "	96,327	63,044	65.4
September	28, "	128,667	99,665	77.5
January	31, 1946.....	233,703	222,669	95.3
February	28 "	263,425	252,855	96.0
March	28 "	266,027	255,392	96.0
April	11 "	262,681	249,854	95.1
May	2 "	233,885	217,476	93.0
May	16 "	220,814	205,135	92.9

Workers signing the live unemployment register in the last week of April totalled 123,950, a substantial drop from the 154,820 recorded in March. This means that 53 per cent of the unemployed (as compared with 46 per cent in March) were claiming the protection of unemployment insurance although not all will qualify for benefits. Decrease in claims occurred in all provinces, the greatest decline being in Ontario and the least in New Brunswick. The number receiving benefits during the month of April was 158,168. The fact that a lag of over a month exists between the signing of the live claims register and payment of benefits accounts for this seeming discrepancy. The relatively low figure of live claims may also be explained by the marked decline in unemployment and by the fact that benefits are being exhausted in many cases. The sum of \$7,010,805 was paid in unemployment insurance benefits during April, a decline of \$191,965 from the amount paid in March. Of the 10,354 claims disallowed during April, 5,739 were due to insufficient contributions while in insurable employment, and 2,896 for leaving work without just cause. Veterans receiving out-of-work benefits at April 27, numbered 49,552. Of all unplaced applicants, 74 per cent were thus covered by some form of unemployment protection.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics surveys of the labour force at November, 1945 and February, 1946, give interesting comparative data of the changing incidence of regional unemployment. While data concerning the incidence of regional unemployment has, in previous reports, been based on the total civilian labour force, in the following table unemployment incidence is based on the non-agricultural labour force. This method has caused a rise in the ratios, particularly in the Prairie region, as compared with the ratios resulting from the former technique. The picture thus presented is

more accurate, because unemployment is largely concentrated in urban areas. It is worth noting that the current ratios, based on February unemployment figures, are slightly exaggerated since employment has undoubtedly expanded in the interim. These discrepancies are, however, too slight to affect the general trend depicted by the ratios. The revised ratios point to improvement since February in all regions except the Maritimes, where the burden of unemployment has grown heavier.

Table II--Unemployment as a Percentage of the Labour Force by Region
(Source: Labour Force Survey, D.B.S.; Labour Demand and Supply, Research and Statistics Branch)

Region	November 17, 1945			February 23, 1946			May 16, 1946	
	Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Unpl. Apps.	%
Maritimes.....	303,000	12,000	4.0	310,000	22,000	7.1	30,000	9.7
Quebec.....	1,072,000	60,000	5.6	1,011,000	85,000	8.4	69,000	6.8
Ontario.....	1,300,000	54,000	4.2	1,282,000	80,000	6.2	58,000	4.5
Prairies.....	462,000	24,000	5.2	468,000	40,000	8.2	37,000	7.6
Pacific.....	322,000	19,000	5.9	344,000	33,000	9.6	27,000	7.8
Canada.....	5,459,000	169,000	4.9	5,435,000	260,000	7.6	221,000	6.4

Industrial Employment

An advance was reported in industrial employment during March, for the first time since November, 1945. At April 1, 1,795,048 workers were employed, the index standing at 166.6 as compared with 165.6 a month ago and 174.5 a year ago. Gains occurred in all industries except in logging and coal mining where seasonal influences were a factor limiting expansion. Manufacturing employment increased by 12,277 to reach 969,764. Employment in the durable goods sector increased by 11,859, a gain of 1.3 points, while employment in non-durable goods industries advanced 3,564, a gain of 0.7 points.

Greatest regional advances were registered in Ontario, where employment rose 7,627, and in British Columbia, where the gain was 3,953 workers. The smallest gains occurred in New Brunswick, 20; Prince Edward Island, 50; and Saskatchewan, 146.

The seasonal upswing during March was given added impetus by the resumption of steel production and the ending of the General Motors strike in the United States. Expansion in construction, developmental mining, and consumer goods manufacturing has since reached the point where labour shortages, particularly of skilled workers, are growing acute. Manufacturing firms are increasing plant facilities as materials become available and in the textiles, clothing, furniture and other consumer goods industries the demand for labour is becoming more intense.

The trend in female employment is steadily downward as replacement by ex-servicemen and withdrawal of women from the labour force takes place. At April 1, 426,403 women were working, 23.8 per cent of recorded employment,

as compared with 24.4 per cent at March 1, and 27.2 at April 1, 1945. However, the proportion of women in the post-war labour force will exceed that of the pre-war period, the pre-war trend having been accelerated by wartime changes. In addition, occupational changes will eventuate in a relatively enlarged proportion in manufacturing; already many women are reluctant to accept work in service occupations. The greatest expansion in comparison with pre-war figures will be evident in the over-35 age group.

Unfilled Vacancies

The upsurge of labour demand during April slackened in the first half of May as Canadian industrial activity began to feel the effects of the American coal strike. Although the rise in the number of unfilled vacancies during the past few weeks has been slower than the accompanying drop in unplaced applicants, many employers are contacting prospective employees independently of National Employment Offices and consequently a substantial part of current labour demand is not reflected in employment statistics.

Unfilled vacancies registered throughout Canada at May 16 totalled 111,977 as compared with 112,291 at May 2. A general slackening in demand was evident in all occupational classifications except in the construction and light factory groups, where slight gains were recorded. In Ontario and Quebec, jobs for farm help and woodsmen also increased. The number of vacancies declined in the Prairie region, as activity in food-processing plants is now at the seasonal low, and seeding operations have been completed. The number of available jobs in the Pacific region fell slightly, labour unrest in the primary industries being the chief factor. Unfilled vacancies at May 16 numbered 67,854 for men and 44,123 for women. This represents a decline of 1,305 in male vacancies and an increase of 991 in female vacancies since May 2.

The over-all ratio at May 16 was approximately one job to every two applicants. In the Quebec region the number of unplaced applicants is roughly equivalent to the number of unfilled vacancies, whereas in Ontario jobs still outnumber applicants. The reverse holds true in the Prairies, Pacific, and Maritime regions. In the latter 13.6 per cent of all unemployed workers are concentrated as compared with only 6.4 per cent of total job openings.

The occupational distribution of unfilled vacancies and unplaced applicants has changed markedly in the past two months. The rapid growth in the number of jobs available for unskilled workers was chiefly reflected in male vacancies, while expansion of job openings in the clerical, sales and associated groups applied largely to women.

Current vacancies are fairly evenly divided between the three chief occupational classifications, vacancies for skilled and semi-skilled workers leading slightly. Applicants are most numerous in the unskilled category, followed by the skilled and semi-skilled group. One difficulty in filling the vacancies registered is that many applicants are not acceptable to employers, being only partially-qualified, over-age or physically unfit. In those industries where labour shortages are less stringent, low wage levels or inferior conditions of work often discourage applicants. Another problem is the geographical dislocation between skills and job openings, whereby a surplus of one type of worker may exist in one area while an acute scarcity of the same skill holds up production in another. Natural immobility as well

as lack of housing accommodation prevents many workers from shifting to localities where employment opportunities exist for their particular skills.

Table III--Regional Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants as at May 16, 1946

(Source: Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies		Unplaced Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Maritime.....	7,191	6.4	30,039	13.6
Quebec.....	35,253	31.5	68,413	31.0
Ontario.....	45,626	39.0	58,294	26.4
Prairie.....	16,430	14.7	36,785	16.6
Pacific.....	9,477	8.4	27,325	12.4
Canada.....	111,977	100.0	220,856	100.0

Man-hours and Earnings

Workers received an aggregate payroll of \$55,249,434 in the last week of February. The index of aggregate payrolls rose 1.9 points to stand at 137.6 at March 1, despite the fact that further seasonal contraction had occurred in employment. Expansion in mining, communications and trade, and the adjustment of wage rates in many industries, largely account for this upward trend. The changing sex distribution of employment is also significant in explaining the increase in average weekly earnings, which rose from 31.97 to 32.44 during February. In many cases the replacement of women workers by ex-servicemen is accompanied by a wage increase, thus boosting the wage average. In manufacturing, the drop in employment during February accompanied a reduction in both hourly earnings and weekly hours worked. Hourly earnings declined to 67.9 cents at March 1, a loss of 0.2 cents over the previous month, and weekly hours worked fell 0.1 points to stand at 44.0. These losses were concentrated in the durable goods sector and were offset slightly by gains in non-durable manufacturing. The declines were partly seasonal in character, but material shortages due to the American steel strike were also important. Comparison shows the average weekly hours worked to be well below the average of 45.8 hours recorded a year ago when overtime was a greater factor; present average hourly earnings are similarly lower than the average of 70.1 cents reported at March 1, 1945.

Table IV—Vacancies and Applicants by Occupations as at
March 14, 1946 and May 16, 1946

(Source: Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics
Branch, Department of Labour)

Occupational Group	March 14, 1946				May 16, 1946			
	Unfilled Vacancies		Unplaced Applicants		Unfilled Vacancies		Unplaced Applicants	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Canada.....	77,723	100.0	266,548	100.0	112,064	100.0	220,814	100.0
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service..	22,886	29.4	64,196	24.1	32,695	29.2	61,980	28.1
Skilled and semi- skilled.....	34,717	44.7	95,606	35.1	40,238	35.9	69,639	31.5
Unskilled (a).....	20,122	25.9	108,746	40.8	39,131	34.9	89,195	40.4

(a) Includes farm hands and fishermen.

Strikes and Lockouts

The troubled strike situation continued during April while the rumblings of impending disputes grew menacingly louder.

Twenty-four strikes were in existence - four less than were registered in March - involving 6,907 workers, an increase of 931 over the previous month. Man-working days lost totalled 47,116 as compared with 46,068 in March. Of the strikes settled during the month, four were in favour of the workers, three in favour of employers, and seven indefinite in result.

In the first half of May, fourteen strikes occurred, four of which were quickly settled. The loggers and wood workers strike in British Columbia, involving 35,000 men who are seeking an 18 cent-an-hour pay increase, a 40-hour week and union security, is still deadlocked and seriously disrupting the economy of the province. This strike is the first major dispute of the program planned by the Wage Co-ordinating Committee of the C.C.L., a program which may involve 200,000 workers in wage disputes in the next few months. Another work stoppage, the Seamen's Union (T.C.L.) strike, is affecting inland shipping. Strikers are being arrested in various ports on grounds of desertion and considerable ill-will is rising over the issue. Another dispute concerns 10,000 Ontario rubber workers; while 6,000 textile workers in Quebec plan to cease production shortly. Unrest is also indicated in the mining industry at various points throughout the country.

Industrial unrest in the United States has spread into Canadian industry, which has already been hard hit by the American steel and coal strikes. Further delays in production will increase the inflationary pressure on price ceilings, resulting in the price increases against which labour is campaigning. The firm stand taken by the American government in the recent railway strike may serve to subdue irresponsible union action, which can only serve to discredit the real functions of union organization. On the other hand, it should be

realized that action of employers in refusing to manufacture lower-priced goods without price relief, in cases where such increases are not justified, is just as much a "strike" against production as is the more obvious method of organized labour.

Industrial Production

The index of industrial production advanced during February, to reach 199.0 at March 1, as compared with 188.2 in the previous month, and 248.0 a year ago. Recessions during the last two months have been largely in producer durables and other industries dependent for materials on basic industries in the United States, where production has been stopped by labour disturbances. The index of manufacturing production receded more than seven points to 190.7, increases in textiles, flour and rolled oats, and pig iron, being offset by declines in newsprint, tobacco and steel. The meat packing industry was more active, rising to 148.4, a gain of 5 points. Construction rose from 258.1 to 435.1 during February, and advances were also reported in mining production. Imports were \$139.9 million as against \$117.0 million at February 1, and exports increased from \$154.7 million to nearly \$180.0 million. This represents a drop of \$122.8 million as compared with exports at March 1, 1945, losses occurring in the iron, non-ferrous metals and miscellaneous commodity groups, although advances were recorded in agricultural and vegetable products, and wood and paper products.

Preliminary figures indicate that production registered a further monthly gain by April 1. Secondary iron and steel receded, as did cotton production and flour milling. The production of dairy products rose above normal, and newsprint production reached a new peak.

The cost-of-living index advanced from 120.1 to 120.8 at April 1. The greatest part of this increase was in the food group -- price relief for butter, pork products and vegetables being the explanatory factor. The price of home furnishings and services rose, and clothing prices advanced slightly. This latest cost-of-living index slightly exceeds the wartime high of 120.5 at August 1, 1945.

As government expenditures are now showing a downward trend, maintenance of high production depends more and more upon the level of activity in construction, plant and equipment manufacturing, as well as the volume of export trade. World trade of a private character has been restricted by the limited cargo space available after movement of troops and supplies, and relief and rehabilitation shipments. As these decline private trade will grow, and the expanded wartime merchant fleet will result in more cargo space being available than heretofore. The prosperity of Canada depends in large measure upon the extent of export trade. It has been estimated that fully 30 per cent of Canada's total national output must find markets abroad. To hold export markets by aiding the Dominion's "customers" in their temporary difficulties, an appropriation of \$750 million for export credits has been passed by the Government.

Encouragement of private investment is the aim of various measures such as extension of double depreciation, and the establishment of the Industrial Development Bank. In Britain, private investment priority is determined by the government. No corporate issues of securities can be offered for public sale without government approval, which in turn depends upon the public interest value of the project and also whether it is to be located in an area needing the type of industry and employment in question. This strict control

of the economy will be maintained until the necessary capital and resources have been built up.

Canadian firms report that the chief obstacles to production are shortages of labour, materials, parts, equipment, and tools; hindrances to factory expansion; foreign exchange problems; and the temporary import controls of other countries. Export controls of other countries are causing shortages, especially in the boot and shoe industry and in clothing manufacturing. Import controls chiefly affect heavy industries such as agricultural equipment, alloys and tools.

Table V—Dominant Features of the Canadian Labour Market

Note.—All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Features	Apr. 1939	Apr. 1940	Apr. 1941	Apr. 1942	Apr. 1943	Apr. 1944	Apr. 1945	Mar. 1946	Apr. 1946
Employment (a) -									
Index (Av.1926 - 100).....	104.9	111.9	140.1	163.1	177.8	177.8	174.5	165.7	167.3
(June 1,1941 - 100).....	—	—	—	107.9	117.6	117.6	115.6	109.8	110.9
Number(thousands).....	1,125	1,201	1,503	1,750	1,908	1,908	1,872	1,778	1,795
Female(thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	508	499	423	426
Unemployment (b) -									
Total (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	67.4	81.7	263.4	266.4
Male (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	43.3	53.9	215.3	217.5
Female(thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	24.1	27.8	48.1	48.9
Live Claims									
Total (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	16.4	27.1	162.0	154.8
Male (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	13.7	19.7	130.1	122.5
Female(thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	2.7	7.4	31.9	32.3
Earnings (a) -									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1,1941 - 100)	—	—	—	120.9	142.8	147.3	143.5	137.6	139.3
Per capita weekly earnings	—	—	—	28.47	31.13	32.37	32.06	32.53	32.59
Cost of Living (c) -									
(Av.1935-39 - 100)	—	104.6	108.6	115.9	117.6	119.1	118.7	120.1	120.8
Man-hours and hourly									
earnings (a) -									
Average hours per week...	—	—	—	—	—	—	43.6	44.0	44.4
Average hourly earnings..	—	—	—	—	—	—	70.4	67.9	68.4
Strikes and lockouts (b)									
Number.....	6	19	35	20	37	12	15	28	24
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	0.3	13.8	20.5	7.5	32.5	14.4	4.6	6.0	6.9
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	1.4	64.9	77.0	20.9	103.9	116.0	23.5	46.1	47.1
Industrial Production (d) -	101.8	130.4	161.1	220.8	274.4	270.0	252.2	199.0	197.9
(Av.1935-39 - 100)									

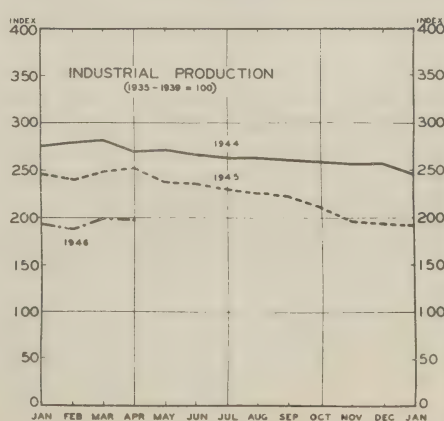
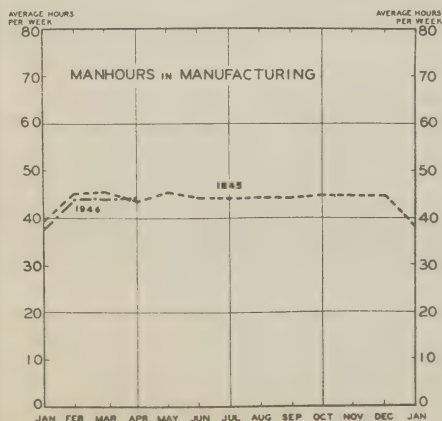
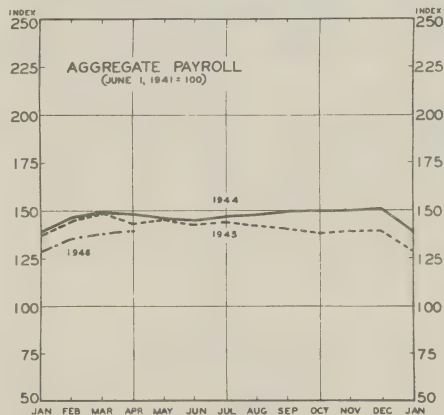
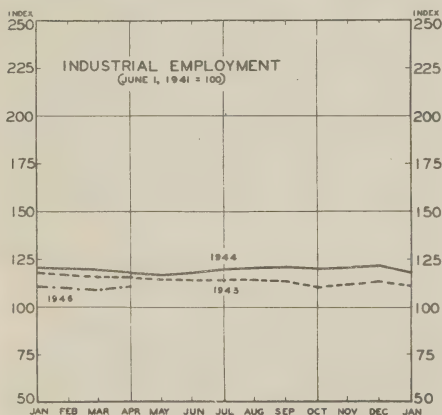
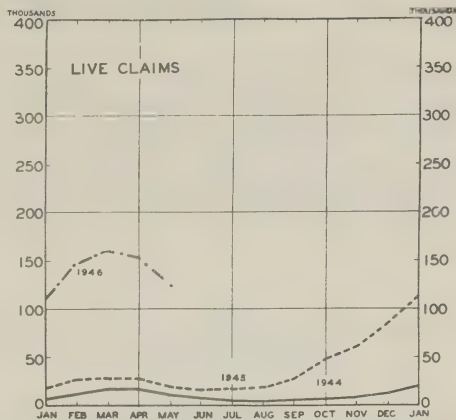
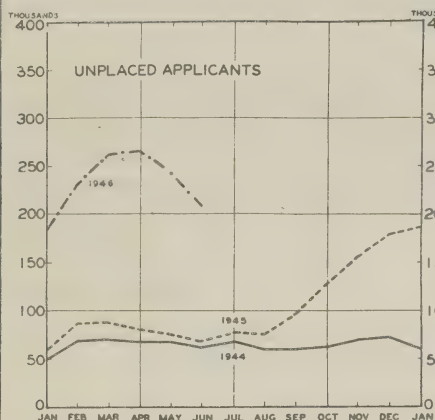
(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.E.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET



Section 2: —THE CANADIAN LABOUR FORCE

The following study concludes an analysis of shifts in the Canadian labour force between November 17, 1945, and February 23, 1946. It is based on estimates provided by the Labour Force Survey of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. It includes: (1) a regional breakdown of the civilian non-institutional population (2) an industrial breakdown of the employed group (3) the dispersion of ex-servicemen among the civilian non-institutional population.

Regional Analysis

Table I—Regional Distribution of the Civilian Non-Institutional Population
(Thousands of Persons, 14 Years of Age and Over)

(Source: D.B.S. Labour Force Survey 2)

Region	Labour Force Non-workers				Total	
	Nov.	Feb.	Nov.	Feb.	Nov.	Feb.
Maritimes.....	387	399	401	410	788	809
Quebec.....	1,310	1,281	1,097	1,173	2,407	2,454
Ontario.....	1,557	1,560	1,260	1,335	2,817	2,895
Prairies.....	927	911	701	755	1,628	1,666
British Columbia.....	357	374	333	340	690	714
Canada.....	4,538	4,525	3,792	4,013	8,330	8,538

During the war years, the mobilization of the armed forces and of war workers resulted in substantial shifts in the geographical distribution of the entire population. The secular trend of movement away from non-industrial and rural regions to industrial and urban regions was speeded up during the past six years. There was an increasing emigration from the Maritimes, the Prairies and Quebec, while Ontario and British Columbia showed substantial gains in population.

During the last three months the civilian non-institutional population of Canada increased by 208,000 persons or 2.5 per cent. Ex-servicemen made up 87 per cent of this increase. Although all provinces contributed to this gain, the increase was not divided proportionally among them, since rates of natural increase, of demobilization and of inter-provincial movement varied considerably. Ontario and British Columbia showed increases of 78,000 and 24,000 or 2.8 and 3.5 per cent, respectively, while Quebec with over four

times the population of British Columbia increased by 47,000, or 2.0 per cent. These variations in rates of increase in comparison with that in Canada as a whole are primarily the result of the regional distribution of the discharged service personnel and of inter-regional migration as employment opportunities look brighter in Ontario and British Columbia.

It is expected that the increase of 21,000, or 2.7 per cent, in the Maritimes and of 38,000, or 2.3 per cent, in the Prairies is of a temporary nature only, and that the pre-war shifts out of these provinces will continue as soon as post-war adjustments are completed.

While the over-all civilian population increased, the labour force fell by 13,000 for Canada as a whole. This decline was concentrated in Quebec and the Prairies where some 29,000 and 16,000 persons withdrew from the labour force. During the war Quebec accounted for one-third of all employment in war manufacturing and one quarter of these employees were women. Between November and February 47,000 women withdrew from the Quebec labour force and the number of men entering was not sufficient to offset this withdrawal. A similar situation existed in the Prairies where 40,000 women withdrew from the labour force. The majority of this withdrawal was from agriculture as farm work hours decreased during the winter months. The counteracting movement of men was not great enough to compensate for the heavy outflow of women.

Although women withdrew in considerable numbers from the labour force in the other provinces, men entered in sufficient numbers to offset this withdrawal. Thus the labour force in the Maritimes increased by 12,000 and in British Columbia by 17,000.

As women made up approximately one-third of all persons engaged in war manufacturing in Ontario and as the number of women in agriculture decreased, female withdrawals from the labour force almost counterbalanced the inflow of of ex-servicemen. During the three-month period Ontario showed an increase of only 3,000 in its total labour force.

Industrial Changes

Table II—Industrial Distribution of Employed Groups(1)
(Thousands of Persons, 14 Years of Age and Over)

Industry	Nov. 11-17, 1945			Feb. 17-23, 1946		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Agriculture.....	889	167	1,056	985	98	1,083
Forestry, fishing and trapping.....	107	(b)	111	132	(b)	134
Mining(2).....	67	(b)	69	69	(b)	71
Manufacturing(3).....	919	272	1,191	928	253	1,181
Construction.....	179	(b)	184	151	(b)	154
Transportation and communication....	296	40	336	284	38	322
Trade, finance and insurance.....	416	246	662	407	228	635
Service.....	376	381	757	376	356	732
Total.....	3,249	1,117	4,366	3,332	980	4,312

(1) Includes paid workers, employers, own accounts and no pays

(2) Includes milling, quarrying, oil wells

(3) Includes production and supply of electricity, gas and water

(b) Fewer than 10,000

In the three month period under consideration the industrial pattern of employment altered somewhat as reconversion continued and seasonal factors came into play. Not only did employment in the various industries change but there was a great deal of replacement as persons withdrew or retired and ex-service personnel took their places. While all industries did not contribute to the reduction, over-all employment fell by 54,000 persons. The number of women employed declined by 137,000 as positions became more difficult to obtain. On the other hand, 83,000 men were absorbed into the employed group.

(1) Agriculture

During the war years there was a definite shift out of agriculture into the armed forces and into higher-paying industries. Since V-J Day, with the tightening of the labour market, this trend has been reversed. Employment in agriculture as reported by the survey increased by 27,000 persons or showed an absolute increase of 2.6 per cent between November and February. In addition employment in agriculture increased relatively in comparison with other industries increasing from 24.2 per cent to 25.1 per cent of the total employed group. A contra-seasonal movement of workers and ex-servicemen back to the farm occurred during the winter months as war employment dried up and employment opportunities were scarce in other fields. Some of this movement was of a temporary nature only and it is expected that as employment opportunities in other industries increase there will be some movement out of agriculture.

The number of women engaged in agriculture declined by 69,000 which is half the over-all decline among women. As the number of hours women devoted to the farm during the winter months fell below twenty hours per week, they were excluded from the employed group. Although some women did retire from farm labour as their families returned home, much of this movement was of a seasonal nature only, and it is expected that they will again be considered as employed as farm work hours lengthen in the spring.

(2) Fishing, forestry and trapping

These industries showed an absolute increase of 20.7 per cent between November and February and a relative increase when compared with other industries, of from 2.5 to 3.1 per cent of the total employed group. Forestry employs the largest number of persons in this group and it accounts for the high percentage increase with logging operation at its peak during the winter months. Although employment has declined with the conclusion of winter seasonal activity, it is expected that with the continued heavy demand for newsprint and other pulp and paper products, employment in the industry will not be far below what it was last summer.

(3) Mining

Employment in this industry declined during the war years especially within the precious metal group. At February 23, 1946 employment in mining was 2.9 per cent greater than at November 17, 1945, but its relative position in comparison with other industries remained the same at 1.6 per cent of the total employed in all industries. It was expected that employment in mining would have increased by a larger percentage, but mines are still handicapped by a shortage of skilled labour. In addition housing conditions are inadequate and in many places accommodation is available for single men only. Employment in this industry should increase since the demand for metals will probably remain at a high level during the next few years.

(4) Manufacturing

During the three month period under review employment in manufacturing declined by only 10,000 or .8 per cent, although employment in war manufacturing declined by an average of 20,000 per month. Manufacturing gained relatively when compared with other industries increasing from 27.3 to 27.4 per cent of the total. Although considerable progress was made in reconversion, expansion in civilian industries was not enough to counteract the adverse influence of this further curtailment in war production and seasonal decline. The labour strife in the United States has prevented the full force of reconversion on employment from taking effect. The influence of declining war production will have less effect as time passes and improvement in manufacturing employment can be expected if satisfactory wage relationships and price equilibrium is obtained. The fuel shortage, however, may have some adverse effects.

The number of women employed in manufacturing declined by 19,000 or from 22.8 per cent of all persons engaged in manufacturing to 21.4 per cent. Some further withdrawals will take place but at a rapidly decreasing rate.

(5) Construction

The period under consideration is the season of low activity for the construction industry. Employment fell by 30,000 or by 16.3 per cent between these two dates as well as construction employment showing a decline from 4.2 to 3.6 of the total number of persons employed in all industries. A huge backlog in demand for all types of construction has accumulated during the war years. Contracts awarded for the first four months of 1946 are 147 per cent above the same period in 1945. As materials and required labour become more plentiful, employment in this industry should increase substantially during the coming months.

(6) Transportation and communication

Transportation lines were taxed to the limit during the war years with the movement of troops and war equipment and supplies. Last autumn the seasonal activity and the transportation of returning servicemen kept employment at a high level. However, between November and February, as the physical volume of production declined, employment decreased by 14,000 and showed a relative decline from 7.7 to 7.5 per cent of all industries. Some improvement can be expected but employment will not reach its wartime high.

Employment among women declined by 2,000, however, this decline had practically no effect on the sex ratio as the movement was part of the general reduction of staff.

(7) Trade, finance and insurance

Over three quarters of all employees in this group are working for trading establishments. Trade and finance were characterized by a loss of male workers to the armed forces and war industry during the war years when they were replaced by women workers and marginal labour. Since V-J day the trend has been reversed.

Employment between November and February declined by 27,000 or by 4.1 per cent. This decline was concentrated in retail trade as at November 17 the employment figure was inflated by Christmas part-time employment. At February 23 as trade tended to reach its seasonal low in activity, employment declined and at that time 14.7 per cent of all persons were working for these industries compared with 15.2 per cent last November.

Table III--Estimated Dispersion of Ex-Servicemen in
Civilian Non-Institutional Population

(Thousands of Persons - 14 Years of Age and Over)

Population Class	November 11-17, 1945			February 17-23, 1946		
	Ex-service- men (a)	Total (b)	Percentage (a) of (b) %	Ex-service- men (c)	Total (d)	Percentage (c) of (d) %
Total	520	8,330	6.2	700	8,538	8.2
A. Labour Force						
1. <u>Employed</u>	436	4,538	9.6	586	4,525	13.0
Agriculture	389	4,366	8.9	518	4,312	12.0
Forestry, fishing, trapping	40	1,056	3.8	56	1,083	5.2
Mining	8	111	7.2	14	134	10.4
Manufacturing	11	69	15.9	14	71	19.7
Construction	131	1,191	11.0	183	1,181	15.5
Transportation and communication	29	184	15.8	29	154	18.8
Trade, finance and insurance	48	336	14.3	60	322	18.6
Service	67	662	10.1	80	635	12.6
Unemployed	55	757	7.3	82	732	11.2
2. <u>Unemployed</u>	47	172	27.3	68	213	31.9
B. Not in the labour force						
1. <u>Permanently unable or too old to work</u>	84	3,792	2.2	114	4,013	2.8
2. <u>Keeping house</u>	6	255	2.4	7	289	2.4
3. <u>Students</u>	12	2,632	0.5	13	2,733	0.5
4. <u>Retired or voluntarily idle</u>	38	575	6.6	59	638	9.2
5. <u>Other (1)</u>	10	299	3.3	14	317	4.4
.....	18	31	58.1	21	36	58.3

(1) Includes recently discharged veterans who are not yet looking for work or who have not resumed their normal activities since being discharged.

The over-all reduction of employment in these industries was divided in the ratio of two women to every man, the result of the high percentage of women employed in retail trade during the Christmas season as well as the withdrawal of some women from the industries altogether.

(8) Service

Employment in this industry declined by 25,000 in the three-month period, and its relative position fell from 17.3 to 17.0 per cent of total employment in all industries. The reduction was entirely among women. Married women giving up their part-time and full-time positions with the Government, in hotels and restaurants and with private individuals accounted for most of this decline. It is expected that employment in this industry will increase as summer hotels and resorts open up.

Ex-servicemen

At February 23, 1946, 700,000 persons or 8.2 per cent of all persons in the civilian non-institutional population were ex-servicemen. As more and more servicemen were absorbed into the civilian population their distribution throughout the various population classes has altered as shown on Table III. In the period between November 17, 1945 and February 23, 1946, 180,000 service personnel returned to civil life. Eighty-three per cent of these entered the labour force and 72 per cent were employed.

Labour Force

An estimated 586,000 ex-service personnel had entered the labour force by February 23, 1946. Ex-servicemen at that time composed 13 per cent of the total labour force compared with 9.6 per cent last November.

Employed

Table IV—Percentage Industrial Distribution of Ex-servicemen

Industry	November 17, 1945		February 23, 1946	
	No.	%	No.	%
Agriculture.....	40	10.3	56	10.8
Forestry, fishing and trapping.....	8	2.1	14	2.7
Mining.....	11	2.8	14	2.7
Manufacturing.....	131	33.7	183	35.3
Construction.....	29	7.5	29	5.6
Transportation and communication.....	48	12.3	60	11.6
Trade, finance and insurance.....	67	17.2	80	15.5
Service.....	55	14.1	82	15.8
Total.....	389	100.0	518	100.0

Although over-all employment in all industries fell by 54,000 employment among ex-servicemen increased by some 129,000 despite the low seasonal activity in many industries. With "veterans' preference" and ex-servicemen re-instatement, all industries provided employment. Even those industries which showed an over-all decline in employment did take on ex-servicemen for replacements.

Of all the industries agriculture employs the smallest proportion of ex-servicemen as to total engaged in that industry. A quarter of all persons employed in Canada are engaged in agriculture compared with only 10.8 per cent of all employed ex-servicemen. During the war agriculture was considered as an essential industry and military exemption was granted when necessary. This fact along with the unattractiveness of some aspects of farm life might help to explain the low proportion of ex-servicemen entering agriculture.

One quarter of the gain in employment in the forestry, fishing and trapping industries was made up of ex-servicemen. In this industry too there is a smaller proportion of ex-servicemen to total ex-servicemen employed than the proportion of total workers in the industry to total employment in Canada.

The mining industry employs 14,000 ex-servicemen. The relative position of the mining industry as an employer of ex-service personnel is 2.7 per cent of the total compared with 1.6 per cent of the total for all workers.

About 40 per cent of ex-servicemen who obtained employment between November and February were taken on by manufacturing firms which now employ well over one third of all ex-servicemen. On the other hand only 27.4 per cent of the employed persons in Canada are engaged in manufacturing industries.

Construction was the only industry which did not employ additional ex-servicemen the result of the low activity in this industry during the winter months when total employment fell by 30,000. With the great demand for construction, it is expected that employment of ex-servicemen in this industry will increase.

Twelve thousand ex-servicemen entered transportation and communication in the period under consideration although over-all employment declined by 14,000.

The proportion of ex-servicemen increased in the trade, finance and insurance and service industries. The former industry group increased by 13,000 and service by 27,000.

Unemployed

At February 23, 68,000 ex-servicemen or 12 per cent of the total in the labour force were unemployed. Almost one third of all persons unemployed were former members of the armed forces compared with 27 per cent in November. With discharges at a high level and employment opportunities scarce during the period in question, this increase in unemployment was to be expected. Unemployment among ex-service personnel should decline during the next few months as demobilization nears completion and industrial activity increases.

Table V—Distribution of Unemployed Ex-servicemen
and Total by Months Looking for Work

(In thousands)

Months	November 17, 1945		February 23, 1946	
	Ex-service- men	Total	Ex-service- men	Total
Under 1.....	10	27	9	22
1 - 3.....	33	114	45	131
4 - 6.....	(b)	23	12	47
7 and over.....	(b)	8	(b)	13
Total.....	47	172	68	213

As in the case of the total number of persons unemployed the majority of ex-servicemen have been looking for work from one to three months. Similarly too, as the labour market tightened the period of seeking work became longer compared with that in November. The marked increase in the number of ex-servicemen seeking work from four to six months points to the danger of a hard core of unemployment developing among this group. Many ex-servicemen are unwilling to accept unskilled labour while they are not qualified for better positions. In addition inadequate housing facilities to some extent has hindered the mobility of ex-servicemen. Of the 68,000 unemployed ex-servicemen, it is estimated that 31,000 were covered by Unemployment Insurance.

Not in the Labour Force

One hundred and fourteen thousand ex-servicemen were not in the labour force at February 23, an increase of 30,000 over November. Most of this increase was concentrated in the student class which gained 21,000 ex-servicemen as new courses got underway in January. There was an increase of 4,000 in the number of ex-servicemen retired or voluntarily idle and an addition of 3,000 to the "other" group. This latter group includes those recently discharged ex-servicemen who are not looking for work and who have not resumed their normal activities since being discharged. An additional 1,000 ex-servicemen were unable to work.

Section 3:—OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The function of the Employment Service in successfully directing labour necessitates the full co-operation of employers and employees. It is of paramount importance that employers report all employment opportunities to the National Employment Service. Similarly, the labour force must make full use of the facilities offered by the Employment Service if an accurate picture of labour supply is to be obtained. The Employment Service would then be in a position to provide information indicating present trends and future possibilities in the labour market, and therefore to fulfill a real function in any full employment program. Valuable information can be supplied for the vocational guidance of new entrants into the labour market. A careful analysis of the trend of labour demand and supply reveals present and possible future maladjustments in the occupational structure of the labour force. Similarly, information regarding the geographical distribution of labour demand and supply is fundamental to industry location and expansion.

The decided improvement in placement activity, as reported by National Employment Service, continued throughout April. Following a sharp rise in vacancies notified, corresponding increases were evident in the number of referrals and placements effected during the month. Increased placement activity, however, was confined to male workers while the labour situation for women remained substantially unchanged during the period. The unsettled labour conditions in British Columbia resulted in a levelling off in the general operations of the Employment Service in that area. The number of jobs reported in the Maritime and Prairie Provinces during April increased at a considerably higher rate than elsewhere giving promise of a substantial reduction in the number of unemployed in these provinces in the near future. The upward movement in placement activity was due largely to the expansion of employment in the seasonal industries: construction, transportation, lumber and food processing.

Vacancies Notified (Reference—Table I and Table VI)

More and more workers were required across Canada during March and April. Vacancies notified, one of the most sensitive indicators of employment trends, rose by almost 20 per cent during April, reflecting a substantial improvement in economic activity throughout the country. Despite prolonged labour strikes throughout the United States and Canada and the inclement weather conditions in many sections of the country, vacancies reported by National Employment Service showed a larger percentage increase during April than during the same period in 1945. Nevertheless, the total number of jobs reported in April, 1946, was only two-thirds the number filed in the same month last year, as the shortage of materials and of certain types of skilled help continued to hamper reconversion. There were approximately 37,000 non-agricultural jobs reported each week in April

as compared with 31,000 in March and 58,000 during April, 1945. Although the resumption of steel production greatly stimulated Canadian manufacturing activity, the recent coal and railway strikes have again curtailed the flow of vital raw materials. Seasonally active industries reporting substantial gains in labour demand during April were transportation (57%), construction (49%), and mining (32%). Labour requirements of the Dominion postal service showed a 51 per cent increase, anticipating the resumption of twice-daily mail delivery. A moderate increase was reported in the labour needs of manufacturing industries (19%), with the greatest gains reported in the machinery and transportation equipment, food and lumber products fields.

An increase of 26 per cent in male labour requirements accounted almost entirely for the general rise in employment opportunities reported during April. Male labour requirements are more sensitive to seasonal fluctuations than are female labour needs. Male labour demand fell steadily from the September peak to reach a low point in February. During the next two months, however, the number of men required rose by over 50 per cent. Female labour demand, on the other hand, declined gradually from V-J Day until the end of 1945. Since December, demand for women has slowly but persistently increased.

Table I—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified, by Province, and by Sex, April, 1946, with Percentage Change During the month

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies Notified			
	Male	Increase in April %	Female	Increase in April %
Canada.....	26,613	26	10,518	2
Maritime Provinces.....	1,688	45	622	7
Quebec.....	6,121	27	2,081	2
Ontario.....	11,677	24	4,894	-
Prairie Provinces.....	3,614	40	1,802	3
British Columbia.....	3,513	15	1,119	4

The above table reveals a substantial alleviation in the labour situation for male workers in the Maritime and Prairie Provinces. Increases in labour demand in the Maritime and Prairie Provinces during April, were evident mainly in the construction, transportation, and sawmill industries, which are particularly sensitive to seasonal fluctuations. These vacancies, together with the urgent request for farm workers, should absorb many of the present unemployed in these provinces.

Applicants Registered (Reference—Table II)

Applications for employment, averaging 33,000 per week in April, showed a decline of 12 per cent during the month, despite the high rate of demobilization during the past few months. The general upswing in industrial activity has resulted in an increasing number of workers getting jobs both with and without the aid of the Employment Service. The drop in applications was particularly pronounced in Quebec, where the weekly average of applicants registering fell from 10,000 to 7,000 during April. In contrast to

this sharp decline, the Prairie Provinces and Ontario reported only a slight drop in the number of applicants registering during April.

To achieve an all-out war effort, a substantial occupational shift of workers to war industry was necessary. This task was eased by high wage incentives and by the comparatively simple skills required in many of the war plants. The transition to civilian industry has, however, been accompanied in many cases by down grading of wages together with promotion schedules requiring a thorough apprenticeship period. Consequently, a substantial surplus of unskilled and partially trained metalworkers and construction workers exists at this time, while unfilled vacancies are mainly for experienced and specialized tradesmen. With increased employment opportunities, this occupational maladjustment has become even more marked. The increased use of facilities offered by the various apprenticeship schools and on-the-job training programs for ex-service personnel should eventually relieve the shortage of trained workers. However, at the present time, expansion in mines, foundries, and construction projects continues to be hampered by the lack of skilled tradesmen.

During April, for the first time since July, 1945, the volume of manpower requirements exceeded the number of applications for employment. The decided improvement in the labour situation, however, was not common to all provinces. In the Maritime and Prairie Provinces, applications remain in excess of vacancies despite the sharp rise in job openings during April and the dropping off in applicants seeking work. Undoubtedly a time lag exists between receipt of notification of a vacancy by the Employment Service and the placement of a worker in that job. Consequently a sharp decline in applications in the Maritime and Prairie Provinces should occur during May, following the marked rise in vacancies notified in these provinces in April. Applications should also be reduced in these areas of unemployment by the absorption of workers into agriculture and the migration of workers to localities of labour shortages. Transfer of workers, however, continues to be hampered by the general lack of housing accommodation.

Table II—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified and Applicants Registered, by Provinces during April, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies		Average Weekly Applicants	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Canada.....	37,131	100	33,158	100
Maritime Provinces...	2,310	6	3,014	9
Quebec.....	8,202	22	7,228	22
Ontario.....	16,571	45	12,341	37
Prairie Provinces....	5,415	15	5,997	18
British Columbia.....	4,633	12	4,578	14

Referrals (Reference—Table III and Table VII)

Referral activity rose by almost 20 per cent during the month to bring the average weekly non-agricultural referrals to approximately 26,000 per week in April. This increase was due to the pronounced rise in the number of men referred to jobs which more than offset the slight decline in female referrals. The seasonal upswing in activity in the transportation and construction industries resulted in a greater than 50 per cent increase in referrals effected in these industries during April. The opening up of job opportunities in the mines following the spring break-up and the influx of students who are seeking high-paying temporary employment resulted in a 28 per cent increase in referrals in the mining industry during April. Referrals in the manufacturing field showed a nineteen per cent increase during April; with the rise concentrated in the food processing, machinery and transportation industries.

Table III—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Referrals by Sex,
From April, 1945, to April, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Month		Male	Female	Total
April, 1945	.....	28,009	15,710	43,719
May "	.....	26,804	12,155	38,959
June "	.....	30,499	9,755	40,254
July "	.....	28,217	7,885	36,102
August "	.....	29,431	7,943	37,374
September "	.....	31,653	9,303	40,956
October "	.....	31,197	8,924	40,121
November "	.....	28,238	8,669	36,907
December "	.....	16,198	5,448	21,646
January 1946	.....	12,949	6,795	19,744
February "	.....	12,924	6,725	19,649
March "	.....	14,547	7,400	21,947
April "	.....	18,742	7,286	26,028

Considerably more referrals were made per job available in April than in March. Jobs available are calculated by adding unfilled vacancies at the beginning of the period to employment opportunities made available during the month. During April, 49 referrals were made for every 100 jobs available, as compared with 43 in March, and 42 in February. Referrals have increased at a greater rate than vacancies, likely due to the greater variety of jobs reported during the past month.

Placements (Reference—Table IV and Table VIII)

Total placements increased by 14 per cent during April as compared with a 10 per cent rise during the same month in 1945. Non-agricultural placements during April, averaging 16,000 a week, were less than half the number reported during a similar period last year. Placement activity was furthest below the level reported last year, in the iron and steel, chemical, logging, and transportation industries. Placements are comprised of regular placements, casual placements of seven days duration or less, and inter-area transfers. During April, 89 per cent of all placements were regular and 8 per cent were casual;

the remaining 3 per cent were filled by the inter-area transfer of workers. Casual placements have risen sharply, as compared with the same month in 1945, since an increased number of women are now accepting temporary domestic service work. The number of inter-area transfers dropped at approximately the same rate as total placements during the year ended April, 1946.

Male placements in April rose by 21 per cent whereas the placing of female workers declined during the month. The Prairie Provinces reported a 38 per cent increase in the number of men placed in jobs during April as activity increased in seasonal industries. In British Columbia, on the other hand, placement activity remained substantially unchanged due, probably, to the unsettled labour conditions existent there and the consequent reluctance of both employees and employers to seek employment or accept additional workers at this time.

Table IV--Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Placements
by Sex, from April, 1945, to April, 1946

Month	Male	Female	Total
April, 1945.....	21,072	10,900	31,972
May "	20,094	9,228	29,322
June "	22,874	7,161	30,035
July "	21,396	5,469	26,865
August "	20,766	5,093	25,859
September "	24,239	5,972	30,211
October "	23,621	5,379	29,000
November "	22,823	5,307	28,130
December "	13,765	3,703	17,468
January, 1946.....	9,177	3,763	12,940
February "	8,643	3,816	12,459
March "	9,812	4,159	13,971
April "	11,871	4,059	15,930

Placement of Executive and Professional applicants declined during April, despite a rise of 23 per cent in vacancies notified during the month. On an average weekly basis, placements during April totalled 58, as compared with 63 in March. Employers are insisting on applicants who are fully experienced and who have the necessary educational requirements; in contrast, many of the ex-servicemen, who are applicants, received their education prior to enlistment and have not had the opportunity to gain experience. At May 2, there were 1,177 Executive and Professional positions open, while unplaced applicants in this division numbered 2,431.

The successful placement of handicapped workers is largely dependent on the efforts of the Employment Service. First, there must be a comprehensive appraisal of the physical and mental capabilities of the applicant. Second, an active co-operation must be cultivated with employers in a common endeavour to place handicaps in any job that they can adequately fill. A third factor is the degree of alertness displayed by the Special Placement Officer in discovering suitable jobs for handicapped workers. The noteworthy success of the Handicapped Division of the Employment Service is indicated by the volume

of placement activity for handicapped workers during the past few months. The number of unemployed handicapped workers was reduced during the period March 15 to April 13, contrary to the upward trend in unplaced handicapped workers evident since the beginning of November. At April 13, unplaced handicapped applicants totalled 7,040, representing approximately 3 per cent of all the unemployed at that date. Placements of handicapped workers have been rising steadily since the middle of December; from March 15 to April 13 there were 1,116 placements more than 30 per cent above the number in the previous four weeks. This presents a decidedly better trend than was evident for general placement activity. Total placements declined steadily from the September peak until the end of February. Since that time total placements having been continually rising, but at a less rapid rate than that for handicapped workers.

Engagements Without Referral (Reference—Table V and Table IX)

With the easing of the labour situation, the number of workers getting jobs on their own increased during April. Engagements without referral in non-agricultural industries numbered approximately 22,000 per week in April, as compared with slightly less than 20,000 per week in March. This rise was concentrated entirely amongst male workers; in the Ontario and Prairie Provinces, male engagements without referral rose by over 30 per cent. The greatest increases were reported in the logging, lumber, construction, and transportation industries.

Table V—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Engagements Without Referral, by Province, during April and March, 1946, With Actual and Percentage Changes

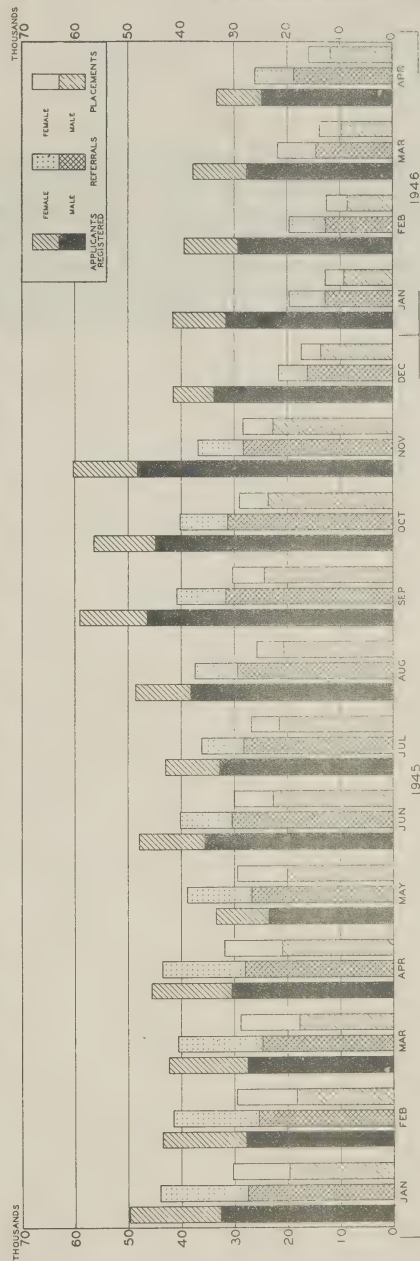
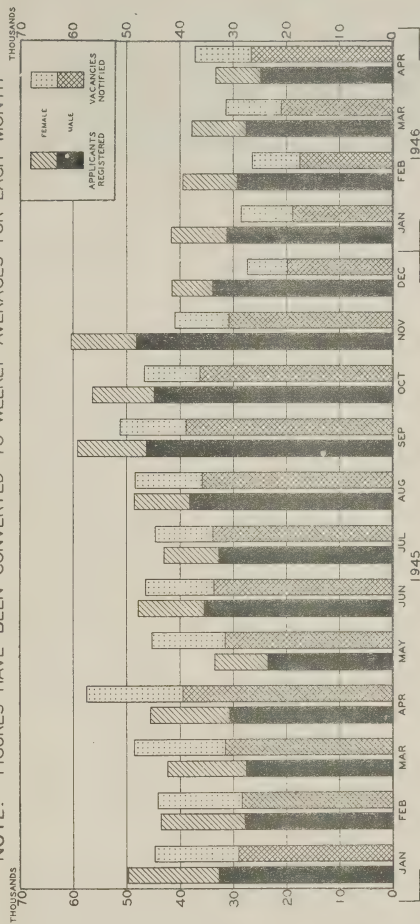
(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Engagements		Change During Month	
	April, 1946	March, 1946	Actual	Percentage
CANADA.....	22,180	19,606	+ 2,574	+ 13
Prince Edward Island.....	22	13	+ 9	+ 69
Nova Scotia.....	544	527	+ 17	+ 3
New Brunswick.....	553	595	- 42	- 7
Quebec.....	6,475	6,232	+ 243	+ 4
Ontario.....	8,811	6,940	+ 1,871	+ 27
Manitoba.....	960	960	-	-
Saskatchewan.....	901	599	+ 302	+ 50
Alberta.....	1,138	932	+ 206	+ 22
British Columbia.....	2,776	2,808	- 32	- 1

Approximately 40 per cent more workers are, at present, getting jobs by their own efforts than those placed by the Employment Service. In the advent of a serious business depression the Employment Service will not be in a position to serve the whole community, if during a period of mild transitional unemployment workers generally do not utilize the facilities offered by the local employment offices. Obviously, it is vitally important that the Employment Service now gain the full confidence and support of both applicants seeking work and employers desiring workers, in order to cope more efficiently with any serious unemployment problem that may arise in the future.

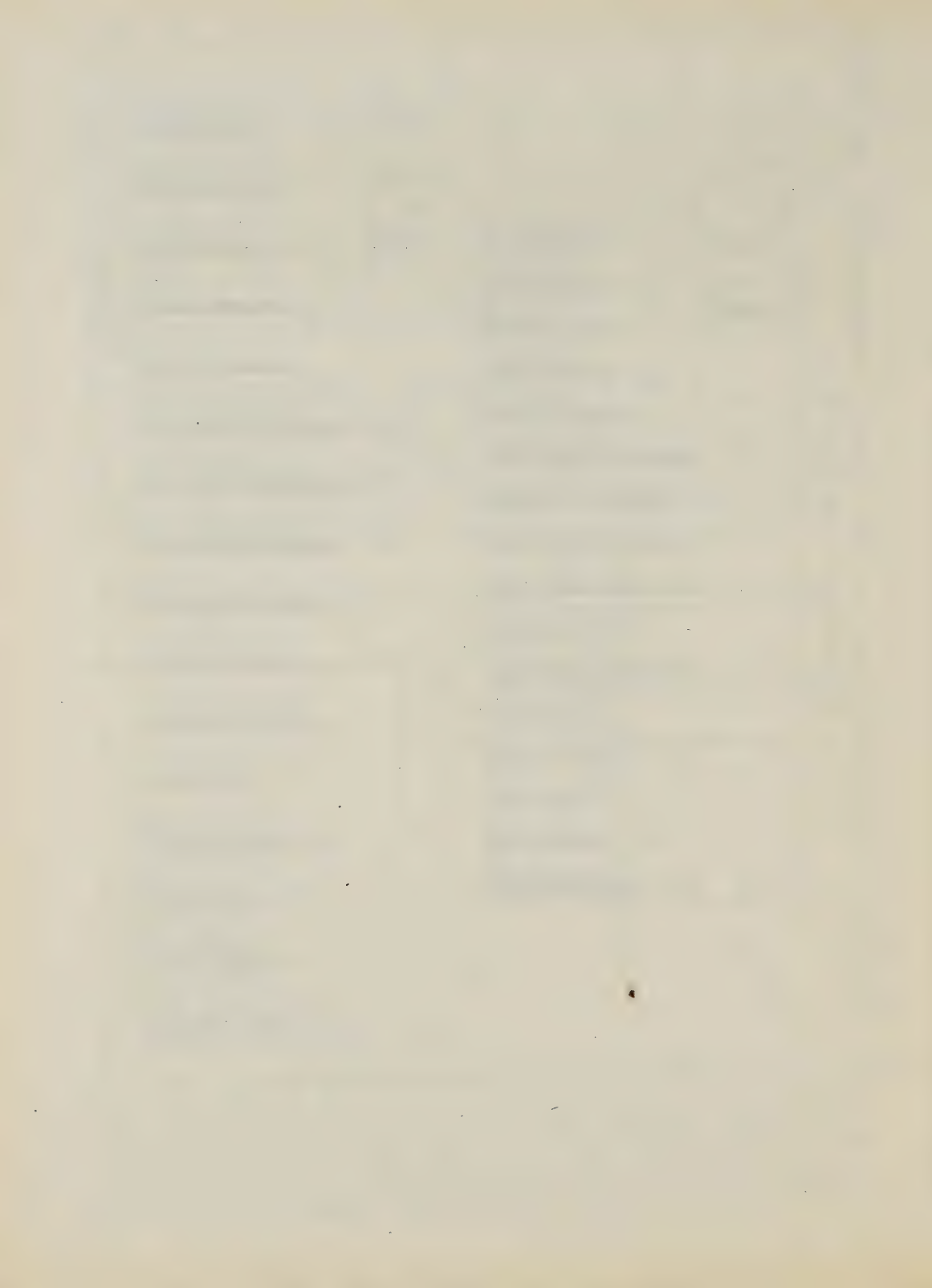
PLACEMENT OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ON A COMPARATIVE MONTHLY BASIS

NOTE: FIGURES HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH



SOURCE: U.I.C. - 751 B

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Separations (Reference—Table X)

Non-agricultural separations fell slightly from their March peak to total little more than 29,000 a week during April. A sharp decline in separations in the logging and transportation industries during the month was offset somewhat by the rise in the number of workers leaving sawmills, construction work, and service trades. Separations during April were 20 per cent below the level reported one year previous; fewer people leaving the chemical iron and steel, and transportation equipment manufacturing plants accounted for much of the drop in separations.

Table VI—Non-agricultural Vacancies Notified as Reported
by the National Employment Service, April, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Vacancies During Month	Average Weekly Vacancies		
		Number	% Change From	
			Mar. 1946	Apr. 1945
All industries	185,653	37,131	18.3	-35.5
Logging	16,434	3,287	-11.6	-36.5
Mining	4,771	954	32.1	-17.0
Manufacturing	59,873	11,974	18.9	-45.2
Food and kindred products	7,655	1,531	32.9	-48.4
Textiles, apparel, etc.	8,910	1,782	-16.4	-44.2
Lumber and finished lumber products .	7,362	1,472	46.0	-32.6
Pulp and paper products and printing.	5,167	1,033	27.5	-35.0
Chemicals and allied products	1,907	381	3.0	-57.1
Products of petroleum and coal	490	98	145.0	-29.5
Rubber goods	1,427	285	-18.1	-23.4
Leather and products	1,761	352	11.0	-33.8
Stone, clay and glass products	2,298	460	46.0	- 5.2
Iron and steel and their products ...	5,258	1,052	12.0	-67.7
Non-ferrous metals	2,334	467	32.7	-49.1
Machinery	6,603	1,321	42.3	- 7.1
Transportation equipment	6,491	1,298	38.5	-58.5
Miscellaneous	2,210	442	4.0	-41.8
ConStruction	26,917	5,383	48.9	7.0
Transportation and storage	11,334	2,267	57.3	-57.7
Other public utilities	2,448	490	38.4	-10.8
Trade	18,438	3,688	4.6	-38.0
Finance and insurance	2,606	521	7.0	-38.8
Public and professional service	12,314	2,463	34.1	-15.8
Other service	30,518	6,104	8.9	-30.0

Table VII—Non-agricultural Referrals as Reported by the
National Employment Service, April, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Refer- rals During Month	Average Weekly Referrals		
		Number	% Change From	
			Mar. 1946	Apr. 1945
All industries	130,139	26,028	18.6	-40.5
Logging	3,846	769	-24.1	-73.1
Mining	4,027	805	27.8	0.0
Manufacturing	42,551	8,510	18.6	-48.0
Food and kindred products	6,021	1,204	33.9	-53.2
Textiles, apparel, etc.	5,346	1,069	-9.0	-47.2
Lumber and finished lumber products ...	4,770	954	29.3	-35.7
Pulp and paper products and printing ..	3,430	686	24.3	-43.8
Chemicals and allied products	1,712	343	1.5	-50.1
Products of petroleum and coal	419	84	44.8	-41.7
Rubber goods	826	165	2.5	-35.6
Leather and products	1,049	210	-2.3	-38.6
Stone, clay and glass products	1,659	332	32.8	-6.5
Iron and steel and their products	4,197	839	6.1	-65.5
Non-ferrous metals	1,498	300	9.1	-56.9
Machinery	5,057	1,011	42.6	-19.0
Transportation equipment	5,220	1,044	48.9	-57.8
Miscellaneous	1,347	269	-14.1	-35.3
Construction	20,732	4,146	54.8	22.8
Transportation and storage	7,794	1,560	62.2	-62.0
Other public utilities	1,702	340	18.1	-36.5
Trade	17,522	3,504	7.3	-38.3
Finance and insurance	2,163	433	4.8	-46.7
Public and professional service	8,569	1,714	20.2	-33.9
Other service	21,233	4,247	3.7	-35.5

Table VIII—Non-agricultural Placements as Reported by the
National Employment Service, April, 1946.

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Place- ments During Month	Average Weekly Placements		
		Number	% Change From	
			Mar. 1946	Apr. 1945
All industries	79,649	15,930	14.0	-50.2
Logging	3,787	758	-15.4	-70.8
Mining	2,419	484	15.0	-23.5
Manufacturing	25,067	5,013	10.9	-57.5
Food and kindred products	3,361	672	23.8	-63.6
Textiles, apparel, etc.	3,047	609	-14.6	-59.5
Lumber and finished lumber products ..	3,212	642	21.6	-43.4
Pulp and paper products and printing .	2,017	404	16.4	-53.8
Chemicals and allied products	805	161	-13.5	-66.3
Products of petroleum and coal	175	35	29.6	-62.4
Rubber goods	500	100	-9.9	-51.9
Leather and products	488	98	-20.3	-61.0
Stone, clay and glass products	947	189	21.9	-29.0
Iron and steel and their products	2,346	469	-2.9	-73.2
Non-ferrous metals	788	158	-9.7	-69.9
Machinery	2,980	596	51.7	-27.8
Transportation equipment	3,706	741	31.2	-57.4
Miscellaneous	695	139	-19.2	-54.0
Construction	13,261	2,652	46.0	-1.3
Transportation and storage	5,330	1,066	55.8	-65.2
Other public utilities	1,053	211	15.9	-38.3
Trade	8,825	1,765	2.8	-52.4
Finance and Insurance	930	186	-3.1	-62.4
Public and professional service	5,486	1,097	15.4	-43.7
Other service	13,491	2,698	4.2	-42.6

Table IX—Non-agricultural Engagements Without Referral as Reported
by the National Employment Service, April, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Engage- ments During Month	Average Weekly Engagements		
		Number	% Change From	
			Mar. 1946	Apr. 1945
All industries.....	110,899	22,180	13.1	239.4
Logging.....	11,442	2,288	35.7	64.1
Mining.....	3,235	647	-0.3	276.2
Manufacturing.....	38,032	7,606	3.9	331.9
Food and kindred products.....	4,966	993	10.9	216.2
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	5,461	1,092	-19.7	721.1
Lumber and finished lumber products....	5,013	1,003	43.9	134.3
Pulp and paper products and printing....	3,795	759	18.2	328.8
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,214	243	-19.3	224.0
Products of petroleum and coal.....	404	81	15.7	575.0
Rubber goods.....	927	185	8.2	1955.6
Leather and products.....	1,423	285	-8.7	562.8
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,311	262	27.8	424.0
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,275	655	6.7	364.5
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,527	305	16.4	1120.0
Machinery.....	2,939	588	-4.7	694.6
Transportation equipment.....	4,222	844	-4.3	245.9
Miscellaneous.....	1,555	311	8.1	763.9
Construction.....	13,099	2,620	35.0	418.8
Transportation and storage.....	8,478	1,696	36.1	185.5
Other public utilities.....	1,808	362	19.1	352.5
Trade.....	11,810	2,362	-4.0	210.4
Finance and insurance.....	1,715	343	-1.4	246.5
Public and professional service.....	9,291	1,858	23.9	292.0
Other service.....	11,989	2,398	11.4	245.0

Table X—Non-agricultural Separations as Reported by the
National Employment Service, April, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Separ- ations During Month	Average Weekly Separations		
		Number	% Change From	
			Mar. 1946	Apr. 1945
All industries	147,006	29,401	-5.1	-19.5
Logging	14,394	2,879	-31.4	-37.2
Mining	4,903	981	3.5	5.5
Manufacturing	61,004	12,200	-3.9	-24.1
Food and kindred products	8,245	1,649	-13.0	-27.2
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	9,475	1,895	-7.4	2.2
Lumber and finished lumber products	6,267	1,253	11.5	-15.1
Pulp and paper products and printing	4,466	893	-5.0	-1.2
Chemicals and allied products	2,328	466	-2.1	-54.3
Products of petroleum and coal	549	110	15.8	-21.4
Rubber goods	1,540	308	3.7	7.3
Leather and products	2,090	418	2.5	31.0
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,717	343	14.0	25.2
Iron and steel and their products	6,605	1,321	-6.2	-46.9
Non-ferrous metals	1,997	399	9.0	-18.2
Machinery	5,917	1,183	-11.4	3.6
Transportation equipment	7,630	1,526	-4.3	-50.4
Miscellaneous	2,178	436	5.8	29.4
Construction	14,433	2,887	13.3	35.3
Transportation and Storage	10,131	2,026	-12.1	-24.6
Other public utilities	1,539	308	-4.7	21.3
Trade	15,811	3,162	-0.7	-13.4
Finance and insurance	2,149	430	4.6	-4.9
Public and professional service	9,865	1,973	4.9	-11.2
Other service	12,777	2,555	3.3	-27.9

PART II

DEMOBILIZATION AND RECONVERSION

Section I--ACTIVITIES OF EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

With demobilization nearing completion, discharges from the armed forces have declined substantially. During April, 56,000 service personnel were released as compared with 71,000 in March. Further sharp declines in discharges are to be expected during the next few months.

The increase in the number of job opportunities during April more than offset the flow of ex-servicemen into the labour market, resulting in a slight easing of the unemployment situation among ex-service personnel.

While fewer ex-servicemen registered with National Employment Service offices during April than in the previous month, more placements were effected. There was, however, a decline in the number of ex-service personnel reinstated in civil employment.

The easing of the unemployment situation among ex-service personnel has reduced the number receiving out-of-work benefits. However, the percentage of unplaced ex-servicemen, registered for 15 days or more, continues to increase. With increased seasonal activity in industries, such as construction, there has been a decline in the percentage of ex-servicemen registered for this type of work.

Discharges

Some decline is apparent in the number released from the armed forces as demobilization nears completion. Discharges during April remained at a high level, with 56,000 released, but a considerable slackening is to be expected in the next few months. Up to the end of April, more than 863,000 service personnel had been discharged. At April 30, the effective strength of the armed forces was 154,000. This figure excludes deserters; those missing, those on extended leave and those seconded. Table I shows discharges, by months, January, 1945 to April, 1946 inclusive.

Table I—Number Discharged from Armed Forces, by Months
January, 1945 to April, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence)

Month	Navy	Army	Air Force	Total
January, 1945	588	3,320	7,850	11,758
February "	592	3,654	8,487	12,733
March "	672	3,249	3,791	7,712
April "	772	4,312	3,236	8,320
May "	657	6,119	3,023	9,799
June "	1,679	10,602	3,040	15,321
July "	3,139	15,393	5,996	24,528
August "	6,679	22,184	8,503	37,366
September "	9,878	34,093	30,773	74,744
October "	14,931	45,994	32,042	92,967
November "	15,712	35,813	13,873	65,398
December "	7,668	22,118	8,454	38,240
January, 1946	7,560	40,735	8,554	56,849
February "	7,552	48,665	9,018	65,235
March "	6,261	56,512	8,641	71,414
April "	4,998(a)	44,439	6,325	55,762(a)

(a) subject to revision

Applications for Employment in National Employment Service Offices

During April, 47,033 ex-servicemen made application for employment at National Employment Service offices. Of this number 26,288 were applying for the first time since discharge. While there was a considerable decline in applications, this was mainly in the number of new applicants. The number applying who had been previously employed since discharge declined only slightly. It is to be expected that this group will show some increase as more ex-servicemen register with the employment service. At present, however, there is little tendency among those employed to seek other work while job opportunities are scarce. Table II shows the total number of discharges and applications of World War II ex-servicemen, by months, August, 1945 to April, 1946, inclusive.

Table II—Discharges from Armed Forces and Applications of World War II Dischargees
by Months, August, 1945 to April, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Discharges	Applications	
		New Applicants	Revivals
August, 1945	37,366	23,950	10,616
September "	74,744	31,351	12,092
October "	92,967	43,586	18,546
November "	65,398	37,726	20,329
December "	38,240	24,934	16,133
January, 1946	56,849	27,641	18,568
February "	65,235	25,025	17,075
March "	71,414	30,400	18,271
April "	55,762(a)	26,288	16,874

(a) subject to revision

Placements

Ex-servicemen comprised more than one-third of all persons placed by National Employment Service offices during April. In spite of the fact that there were fewer applications for employment, there were more placements effected. During April, 25,505 placements were made which was 4,277 more than in the previous month. In addition to those placed, 5,359 ex-servicemen had been referred to specific jobs but notification as to their placement or rejection by employers had not been received. Special efforts are being made in all offices to place handicapped persons in suitable employment. From March 15 to April 13 there were 423 handicapped ex-service personnel placed in jobs by National Employment Service offices.

Of all ex-servicemen registered with the employment service, including those unplaced at the beginning of the month and those making application during the month, 20 per cent were placed during April. The corresponding percentage for civilian applicants was 17 per cent for the same period. While veterans are being shown preference by employment offices and employers, there are several factors which tend to limit placement activity among ex-service personnel. There is a reluctance on the part of some ex-servicemen to accept employment in unskilled or heavy labour occupations. Others do not wish to leave their home communities to work in areas where there is demand for labour. Figures on applications and placements are shown in Table III.

Table III—Live Applications and Placements of Ex-Servicemen with Civilian Comparison, August, 1945 to April, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B and Form U.I.C. 751B)

Month	Live Applications (1)	Placements (2)	Comparison of Civilian (2) with (1) Equivalent Per cent (3) of (3)	
			(2)	(3)
August, 1945	53,963	22,541	41.8	41.6
September "	69,292	29,321	42.3	38.4
October "	98,125	38,298	39.0	34.3
November "	106,955	38,674	36.2	29.5
December "	93,652	26,653	28.5	21.4
January, 1946	98,002	19,454	19.9	15.7
February "	106,295	16,831	15.8	12.9
March "	125,474	21,228	16.9	14.7
April "	130,062	25,505	19.6	17.2

Reinstatements

Reinstatements of ex-service personnel reached a peak in March. During April 16,980 ex-servicemen returned to their pre-war employment as compared with 19,134 in the previous month. Further declines in reinstatements are to be expected in the next few months with the completion of demobilization. Reinstatements since August 1, 1945 represent approximately 24 per cent of all discharges during the same period. Table IV shows cumulative discharges and reinstatements, monthly, August, 1945 to April, 1946.

Table IV—Cumulative Discharges and Reinstatements
Monthly, August, 1945 to April, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 8212)

Date		Cumulative Discharges since Aug.1,1945 (1)	Cumulative Reinstato- ments since Aug.1,1945 (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per cent
August 31,	1945	37,366	2,828	7.6
September 30	"	112,110	12,264	10.9
October 31	"	205,077	30,307	14.8
November 30	"	270,475	48,017	17.8
December 31	"	308,715	60,320	19.5
January 31,	1946	365,564	77,648	21.2
February 28	"	430,799	95,013	22.1
March 31	"	502,213	114,147	22.7
April 30	"	557,975	131,127	23.5

Unemployed

Unemployment among ex-service personnel has passed its peak, despite the continuing flow of ex-servicemen into the labour market. While 47,000 ex-service personnel made application for employment during April, the number of unplaced ex-servicemen decreased by almost 2,000. At the end of April, 81,207 ex-service personnel were registered as unplaced applicants. Of this number, more than 75 per cent had been registered as unplaced for 15 days or more. During April, total unemployment in Canada declined by 23,000 while among ex-servicemen the decline was only very slight. The continuing high rate of discharges is almost counter-acting the placement activities of the employment offices. At April 30, unemployed ex-service personnel constituted 33 per cent of all unplaced applicants as compared with 31 per cent one month earlier. Table V shows total unplaced ex-servicemen and those unplaced 15 days or more, from May 31, 1945 to April 30, 1946.

Table V—Unplaced Ex-Servicemen and Those Unplaced 15 Days or More as
at the End of the Month, May, 1945 to April, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Date		Unplaced Ex-Servicemen (1)	Ex-Servicemen Unplaced 15 Days or more (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per cent
May 31,	1945	10,614	(a)	(a)
June 30,	"	12,013	(a)	(a)
July 31	"	13,673	(a)	(a)
August 31	"	18,956	5,599	29.5
September 30	"	27,770	10,098	36.4
October 31	"	40,780	13,977	34.3
November 30	"	46,503	20,775	44.7
December 31	"	45,974	27,887	60.7
January 31,	1946	59,861	37,364	62.4
February 28	"	72,305	50,286	69.5
March 31	"	83,029	61,018	73.5
April 30	"	81,207	61,292	75.5

(a) Figures not available

Unplaced ex-servicemen who served in World War II only, constituted 86 per cent of all unplaced discharges. While there was a decline in unemployment among ex-servicemen, the number of unplaced discharges of the 1939 war, who were registered with the employment service for the first time, increased slightly. Of the 70,074 World War II discharges, 36 per cent had been previously employed since discharge. At the end of April 49,552 ex-service personnel were receiving out-of-work benefits. Since that date, however, with the drop in unemployment, the number "on benefit" has declined steadily. Table VI shows the number of ex-service personnel receiving Out-of-Work benefits as at the end of the month, August, 1945 to April, 1946.

Table VI—Ex-Service Personnel Receiving Out-of-Work Benefits
As at the End of the Month, August, 1945 to April, 1946

(Source: Department of Veterans Affairs)

Date	Number "On Benefits"
August 31, 1945	606
September 30 "	725
October 31 "	1,300
November 30 "	2,853
December 31 "	8,549
January 31, 1946	21,698
February 28 "	32,817
March 31 "	43,524
April 27 "	49,552
May 25 "	43,336

Occupational Classification of Unplaced Ex-Service Personnel

The seasonal upswing in industrial activity has created job opportunities in such occupations as construction and metalworking. This is indicated by declines in the percentage of unplaced ex-servicemen registered in these occupations. At the end of April, 36 per cent of the unemployed ex-service personnel were classified as skilled or semi-skilled workers while 35 per cent were registered as unskilled. Corresponding percentages for civilian unplaced applicants differ markedly from those for ex-service personnel. Of the civilian unplaced applicants, 31 per cent were classified as skilled or semi-skilled and 41 per cent as unskilled. Table VII shows the percentage distribution, by occupational groups, of unplaced ex-service personnel as at selected dates.

Table VII—Percentage Distribution of Occupational Categories of Unplaced Ex-Service Personnel as at Selected Dates, September, 1945; December, 1945; March, 1946 and April, 1946

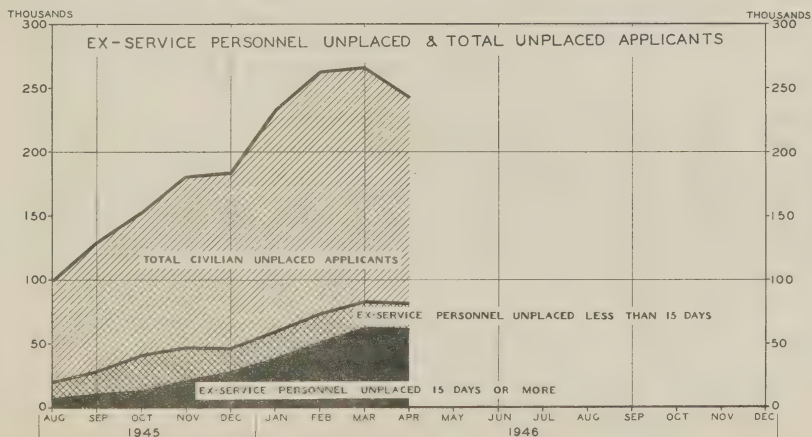
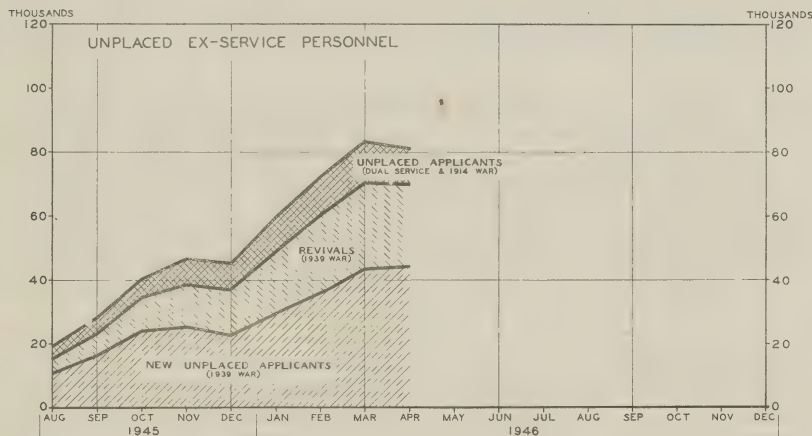
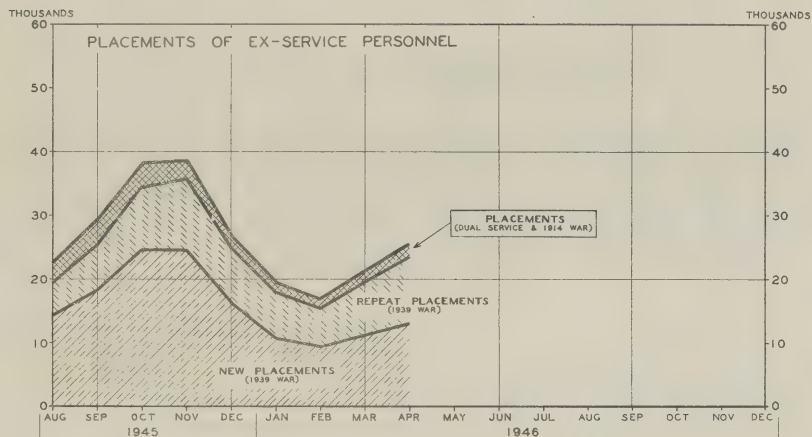
(Source: Forms U.I.C. 757 and 759 for Ex-Service Personnel)

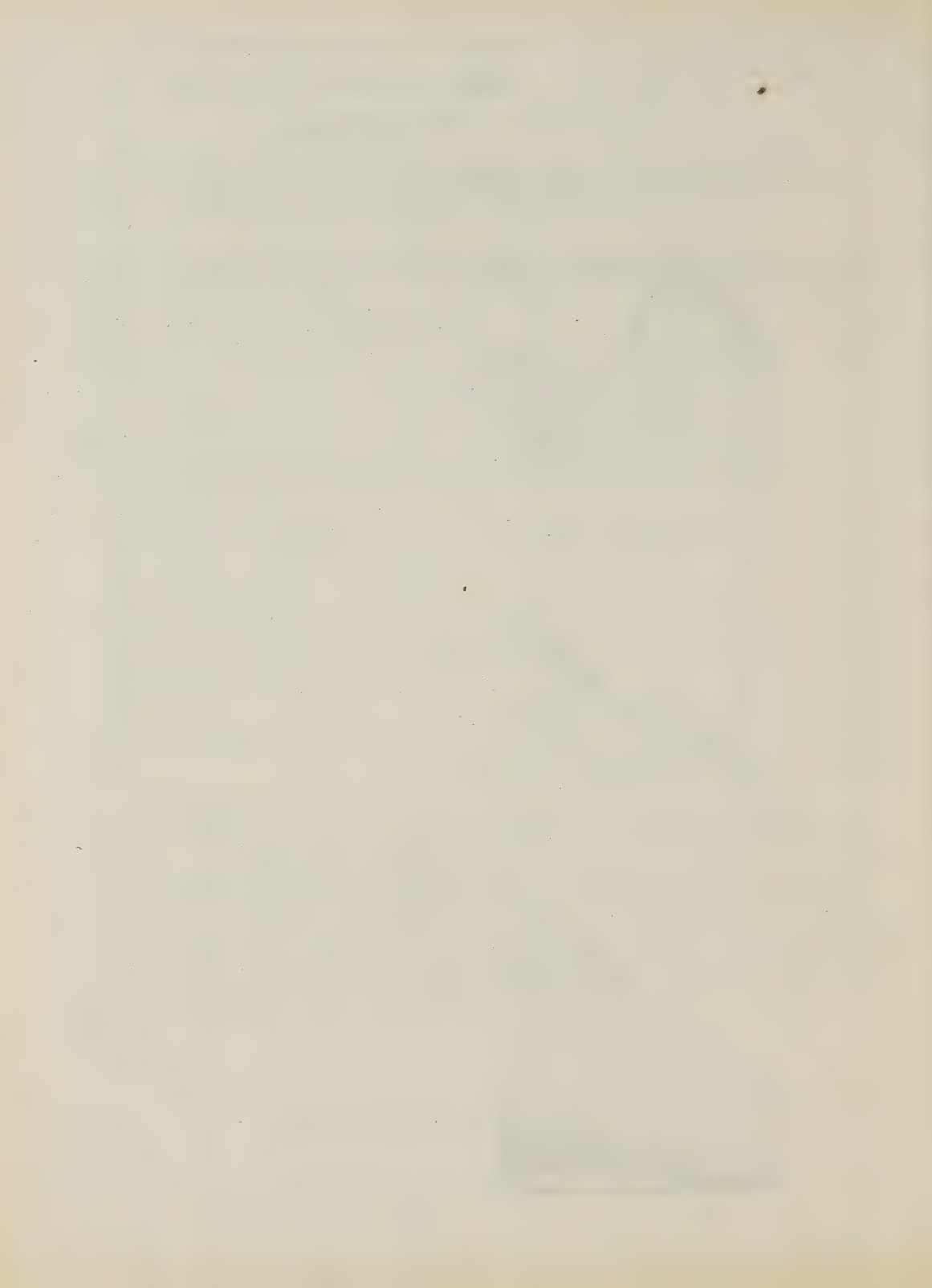
Occupational Group	Sept. 30 1945	Dec. 31 1945	Mar. 31 1946	Apr. 30 1946
Professional and managerial workers	6.7	5.6	4.5	4.9
Clerical workers	12.0	9.6	9.1	9.6
Sales workers	6.8	6.2	5.9	6.0
Service workers	5.2	5.6	4.8	4.8
Agricultural workers	1.3	1.5	3.2	3.5
Fishermen	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.6
Skilled and semi-skilled workers ..	40.0	36.9	36.9	35.7
Food products	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
Textiles, clothing, etc.	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4
Lumber and wood products	1.1	0.9	0.9	0.8
Pulp and paper workers	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Printing	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3
Leather and products	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Stone, Clay and glass	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Electrical	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.4
Mining and quarrying	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.6
Construction workers	4.3	5.0	4.9	4.0
Metalworkers	8.1	7.2	6.0	5.4
Miscellaneous	22.0	20.2	21.8	21.8
Unskilled workers	27.9	34.5	35.1	34.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Future Prospects

The effective strength of the armed forces at the end of April stood at 154,000. This figure does not include some 4,000 to 5,000 service personnel who are on extended leave; their discharge, however, will not affect the labour market appreciably. Discharges from the armed forces are expected to total 35,000 in May, 20,000 in June and 15,000 in July. Of these 70,000 discharges, about 30,000 will be seeking employment, while 15,000 will be reinstated in their former jobs. With demobilization nearing completion and more job opportunities being created by increased industrial activity, further substantial declines in unemployment among ex-service personnel may be expected during the next few months.

APPLICANTS AND PLACEMENTS EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL





Section 2:--THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

The establishments classified in this industry are those engaged chiefly in the manufacture of motor vehicles and motor vehicle parts. The statistics used in the section on employment, those of the Employment and Payrolls Branch of the Bureau of Statistics, do not adhere strictly to this classification as they also include firms classified under "automobile repairing", but the discrepancies resulting from this difference in classification are of minor significance.

Importance in the National Economy

The automotive industry provides an excellent example of the development of a large Canadian industry made possible by a protective tariff. With little economic justification other than this, automobile manufacturing has become one of the largest and most vital of Canada's manufacturing industries, playing an important role in the tremendous revolution in the field of transportation, with its accompanying repercussions on all aspects of business and personal life.

Tables I and II give the principal statistics for selected years and indicate the growth and present size of the industry. In general, it can be seen that the firms require a large working capital but can, with a relatively small number of workers, turn out a total production of considerable value. It is notable that the "value of capital invested" does not vary directly with the number of firms in operation; in fact, an inverse relationship is sometimes apparent. This is a secondary feature of the tendency towards concentration of production in the hands of a few large firms.

During the war, with the increased importance of mechanical transport, Canada was extremely fortunate in possessing a fully-developed automotive industry capable of quick conversion to military use. The consequent increase in production made the industry the most important of all manufacturing industries on the basis of gross value of production. The total value in 1943, \$527 millions, represented about 4 per cent of our gross value of national production. This production was achieved with 45,000 employees, the sixth largest group among all manufacturing industries.

In normal times, however, while by far the leading durable consumer goods industry, the automotive industry is relatively less important. In 1939, on the basis of gross value of production, it ranked fourth, behind non-ferrous smelting and refining, pulp and paper and meat products. The value of production was \$145 millions, about 1.5 per cent of the gross value of national production. The labour force required, numbering 22,000, was the third largest among all manufacturing industries.

Table I—Historical Summary of the Automobile Manufacturing Industry

(Source: Automobile Statistics for Canada, D.B.S.)

Years	No. of Plants	Capital Employed	Average No. of Employees	Salaries and Wages	Cost of Materials at Works(a)	Selling Value of products at Works(b)
1920.....	17	\$53,906,506	8,281	\$13,331,084	\$ 67,157,045	\$101,465,846
1924.....	12	60,766,886	9,277	14,219,137	64,146,581	88,480,418
1928.....	14	97,056,328	16,749	29,548,114	114,982,190	162,367,495
1932.....	25	49,641,777	8,810	11,435,741	28,278,809	43,801,389
1936.....	16	46,497,259	12,933	18,164,042	71,201,646	105,350,035
1940.....	10	78,816,499	16,798	31,110,945	128,833,690	189,807,555
1943.....	5	—	24,264	57,569,265	248,652,602	352,229,955

(a) Duty drawback has been deducted

(b) Includes value of parts made in auto factories

Table II—Historical Summary of the Automobile Parts Industry

(Source: Automobile Parts Industry in Canada, D.B.S.)

Years	No. of Plants	Capital Employed	Average No. of Employees	Salaries and Wages	Cost of Materials at Works	Selling Value of products at Works
1921.....	65	\$15,700,288	2,232	\$ 3,235,185	\$ 8,229,855	\$ 14,783,017
1924.....	60	14,894,462	2,623	3,786,464	9,336,308	15,744,388
1928.....	77	16,543,956	3,509	4,756,409	8,358,404	17,007,157
1932.....	76	17,532,257	3,832	3,874,618	5,970,954	12,161,456
1936.....	85	24,730,610	6,842	7,776,726	18,453,840	33,378,508
1940.....	100	40,710,655	10,441	14,981,791	35,690,690	64,878,624
1943.....	101	78,194,016	21,631	40,328,567	89,986,643	175,074,983

Development of the Industry

The automotive industry in Canada is essentially an extension of that in the U.S.A., and as such has many of the features peculiar to the industry in that country: mass production; standardization of parts; patent rights and managerial techniques. At present, all the major producers here are branch factories of American firms. Due to the desire for location near these parent firms, as well as to ensure accessibility of materials, labour, and market the industry has developed mainly in the industrial peninsula in southwestern Ontario close to the American automotive centres.

The number of plants manufacturing the end-product has varied widely from year to year, with a high of 26 being reached in 1932. Many of the famous names associated with the early development of the automobile—Durant, Gray-Dort, and Chalmers, among others—were once Canadian producers. As in the States, it has become increasingly difficult for the small unknown producer to compete effectively with well-financed "big name" operators on the basis of either consumer appeal or economy of production. The depression and the war years have accelerated the tendency towards concentration of Canadian business in the hands of the "Big Three." In 1944, the number of firms operating had shrunk to five—Ford, General Motors, International Harvester, Chrysler, and a small plant of Canadian origin in Vancouver—Hayes Manufacturing Company. The post-war period will see the

the establishment of several new plants and possibly the re-entrance of former operators. Some of the new firms expected are Reo in Toronto, Studebaker in Hamilton, and White in Montreal.

The hundred-odd parts manufacturing plants are more widely distributed geographically. Two-thirds of these plants are in Ontario, one-quarter in the West, and one-tenth in the province of Quebec.

Production

During the war, Canadian factories turned out almost a million military and commercial vehicles. No passenger cars were made after June, 1942. The production in 1941, when 270,000 vehicles were made, established a new record, surpassing the 1929 peak of 262,625 units. Production figures for these two years are not strictly comparable, however, as in 1941 the emphasis was on production for military rather than civilian use.

To the car-hungry public, any suggestion of passenger car production seems little more than an unconfirmed rumour. Latest statistics do show, however, that production of passenger cars has been picking up in spite of material shortages and strikes. In the first 4 months of 1946, 44,000 vehicles have been produced. Of this total, 19,000 were passenger cars, 10,000 of which were made during April.

Market

With civilian production necessarily curtailed during the war, and with a considerable increase in per capita income, the demand for automobiles is such that several years of full production will be required to satisfy it. Several estimates have been made of the existing demand for new cars. While these estimates vary considerably it is generally agreed that upwards of 250,000 new cars could be sold immediately and that from 500,000 to 750,000 purchasers are willing to wait two years or more. While the industry is capable of considerable and rapid expansion, and the normal working season could be considerably lengthened, it seems unlikely that a physical capacity in excess of 350,000 units annually will be reached in the next few years. As mentioned, an all-time high of 270,000 vehicles was produced in 1941 and production for the first four months of this year has been but 45,000. An annual production rate of 250,000 units would mean that a three year period would bring the new car market back into equilibrium. The deterioration in the used car market will take a somewhat longer period to overcome.

Job Structure and Wage Rates

Because of the complicated and varied products of this industry, there are opportunities for a great many standard tradesmen as well as for a large proportion of unskilled workmen. The industry is highly mechanized and specialized and because of the production line system of work, men can be trained quickly on the job, to do many of the repetitive operations. According to the 1941 Decennial Census, of every 100 wage and salaried workers in the automotive industry there were:

- 72 engaged in production work
- 20 engaged in professional and clerical work
- 4 engaged in maintenance and repair
- 3 engaged in service work
- 1 engaged in sales work

The majority of persons in the production process are metal-workers, assemblers, machinists, mechanics, tool makers, and welders together account for 30 out of every 100 production workers, 15 are employed in the manufacture of parts and 6 are classified as labourers. Women constitute 3 per cent of the total of production workers.

The wage rates for production workers, as shown in Table III, are the second highest among all industries.

Table III—Wage Rates in Selected Occupations in the Automobile Industry, 1943 and 1944

(Source: Wage Rates and Hours of Labour in Canada - Department of Labour)

Occupation	Average Hourly Wage Rate		Standard Hours per Week
	1943	1944	
Assemblers.....	.94	.99	40-44
Electricians.....	.97	1.05	40
Inspectors.....	.94	.96	40
Machine Operators.....	.95	.96	40
Machinists.....	.95	.99	44
Millwrights.....	.98	1.02	40
Painters & Ensmollers.....	.98	1.00	40-44
Sheet Metal Workers.....	1.01	1.07	40-44
Toolmakers.....	1.19	1.24	40-44
Trimmers.....	.96	.97	40
Platers.....	.93	.95	40-44

The professional and clerical workers perform the executive and administrative functions of the business. Office clerks and stenographers form the greatest number in this group being 60 out of each 100. A small group of chemists and engineers is maintained.

Reconversion Problems

Reconversion to peacetime production in the automotive industry involved mainly re-tooling for new models. Even when this was achieved, however, normal production was hampered by material shortages and labour unrest. The retarding effect of the Ford strike in Canada was furthered by the general slowdown in industrial activity in the United States resulting from the widespread series of strikes in that country. The disadvantages of dependence on American sources of supply became apparent as critical material shortages developed. Consequently, all Canadian plants were forced to operate at reduced capacity and the rate of flow of new cars to the market was disappointingly slow. At the time of writing, ten months after V-J day, the Ford plant in Windsor is just beginning to take back several thousand workers who had been temporarily laid off due to scarcity of materials. In spite of these factors, however, by April the rate of production had reached the level of April 1939.

Employment

The secular trend of employment shown in the accompanying chart reveals the seasonal and cyclical fluctuations which are a feature of all durable goods industries. These aspects are discussed in another section of this study. Total employment figures given here are approximately equally divided between workers in parts plants and those in automobile factories proper.

During the war, employment more than doubled. In 1939, average employment was 19,000; in 1943, the peak year, the comparable figure was 45,000. With the end of the war, all producers made large cut-backs in the number of their employees. Three months after V-J day, employment had dropped 50 per cent, to 20,000. A quick recovery took place in 1946, however, and reported employment at April 1 was 34,000, a rise of 10 per cent over the level at March 1, 1946.

Reports from nine selected plants, whose employment constitutes 70 per cent of all automotive workers, forecast a rise of 16 per cent in employment between March 1 and July 1, 1946, with no further increases expected during the summer and early fall. The pre-war seasonal trend would involve a falling-off in employment in this latter period but the 1946 forecast suggests that this trend will be countered by production to meet the backlog of effective demand.

Hours and Earnings

The quarterly statistics given in Table IV reflect the upward movement in per capita weekly earnings which occurred in the automotive industry during the war. A peak of \$44.47 was reached in February, 1945. With the end of the war a sharp drop took place but a recovery began during March of this year when earnings increased 15 per cent to reach \$41.83.

Average hours worked per week also dropped after V-J day and at March 1, 1946, the automotive worker was working only 37.0 hours a week, 20 per cent less time than was worked at the same period in the previous year.

Table IV—Per Capita Weekly Earnings in the Automotive Industry 1942-6

(Source: Employment Situation Bulletin D.B.S.)

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
January.....	\$32.92	\$37.18	\$37.40	\$36.06	\$33.66
April.....	37.51	42.26	43.97	42.06	41.83
July.....	39.30	41.87	43.42	40.22	-
October.....	40.71	41.61	43.87	39.62	-

Trade Unions

Union membership in the metals industries, of which the automobile workers are a part, is the largest of any industry in Canada, with 26 per cent of total union membership. The year 1935 saw considerable organization of automobile workers under the International Union of United Automobile Workers of America, on A.F. of L. union which went over to the C.I.O. in 1936. In 1937, there were 10,000 union members among automotive workers but since that time their numbers have increased to approximately 25,000. The union changed its name in 1941 and is now known as the United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America.

Collective Bargaining Agreements

In 1945, there were 25 agreements on file covering 17,762 workers in the industry; (these figures do not include 10,376 workers at the Ford plant as their agreement was suspended in May, 1944). About 95 per cent of the workers affected come under the International Union, United Automobile, Aircraft, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America. Most agreements provide that the employer recognize the union as the sole bargaining agent for the workers. There are several occupations which are not subject to these agreements regardless of the fact that workers in them may be union members. Examples of these are employees engaged in a supervisory capacity, including those having the right to hire and to discharge; confidential clerks to factory supervisors, time-study men; power-house employees; plant protection employees; indentured apprentices; office and salaried employees.

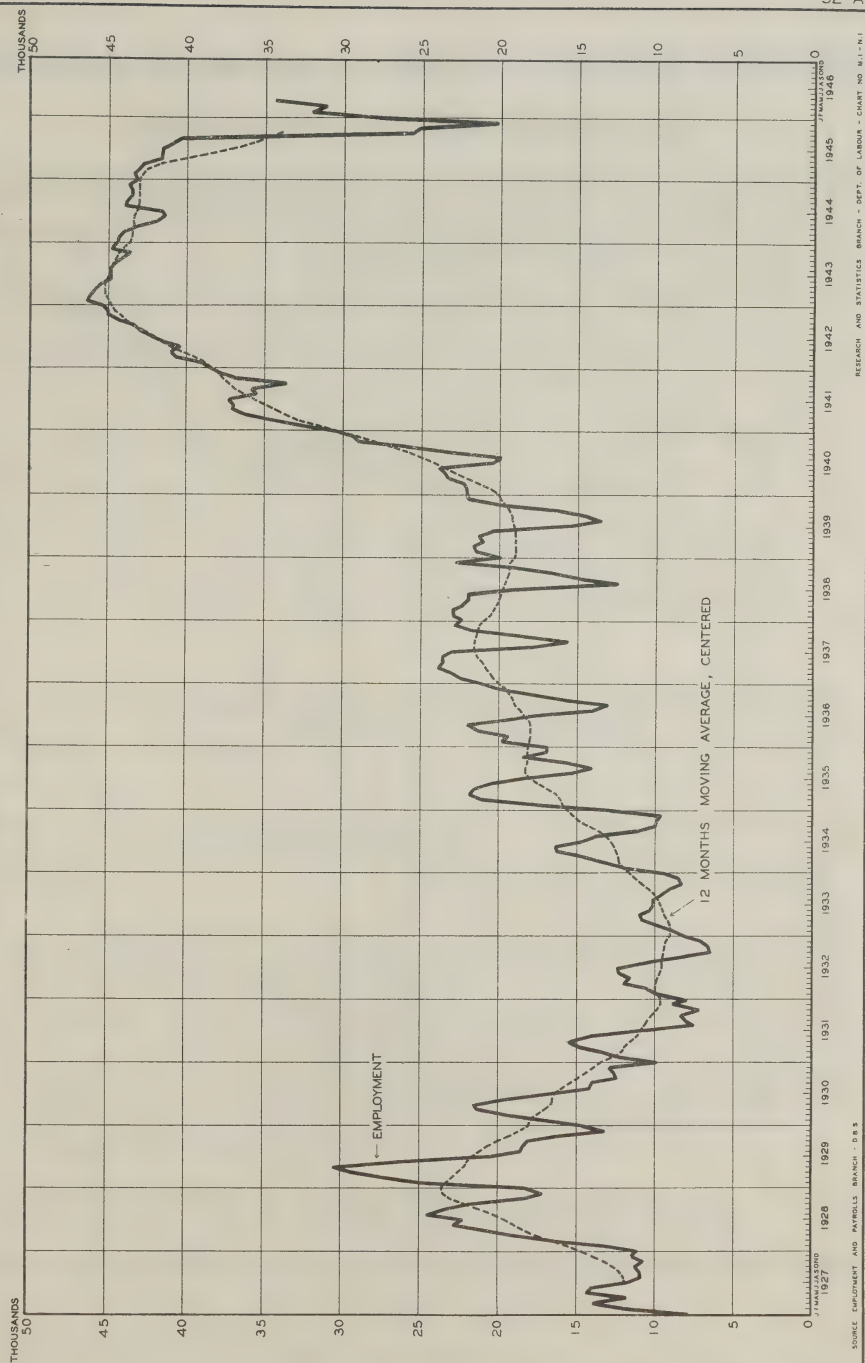
The Ford Agreement, which went into effect on February 15, 1946, includes a novel feature in that the award establishes that all employees who come within the unit to which the agreement applies shall be subject to a compulsory check-off. This means that the union receives dues from all employees deriving benefit from the agreement, regardless of whether they are or are not union members. The amounts assessed non-union workers are only general union dues and do not include special assessments which would not benefit the non-union worker.

Strikes

Strikes in the automobile and parts industry in 1945 were only three in number, but these together with five sympathy strikes, accounted for 74.1 per cent of the total man hours lost due to strikes in Canada during the year. The largest of these three strikes was at Windsor, where the employees of the Ford Motor Company of Canada were out from September 12 until December 29. The workers struck for a new agreement providing for a union shop, check-off, and grievance procedure. The settlement, by federal conciliation and arbitration, resulted in the now famous Rand compromise on union security. The number of workers involved in the strike totalled 10,000 with a time-loss of 915,000 working-days. There were five sympathy strikers by factory workers in other industries which involved 15,606 workers with a time-loss of 163,372 man-working days. The two other strikes in the industry last year, one in Sarnia and the other in Brantford, caused a time loss of 1,150 working days and involved 893 workers.

In the first quarter of 1946, there has been only one small strike in the industry, involving 85 employees with a time loss of 45 man working days.

MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND 12 MONTHS MOVING AVERAGE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY



IMPORTS, EXPORTS & GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

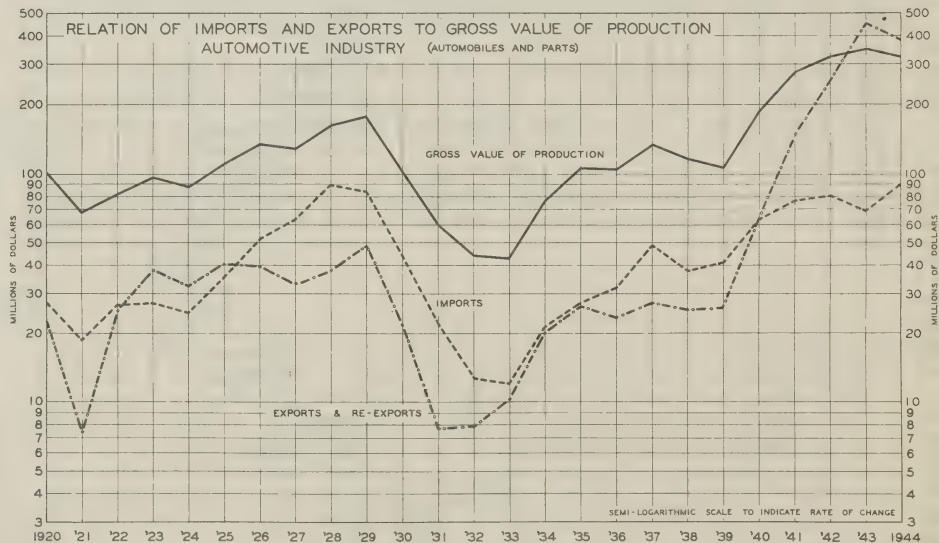
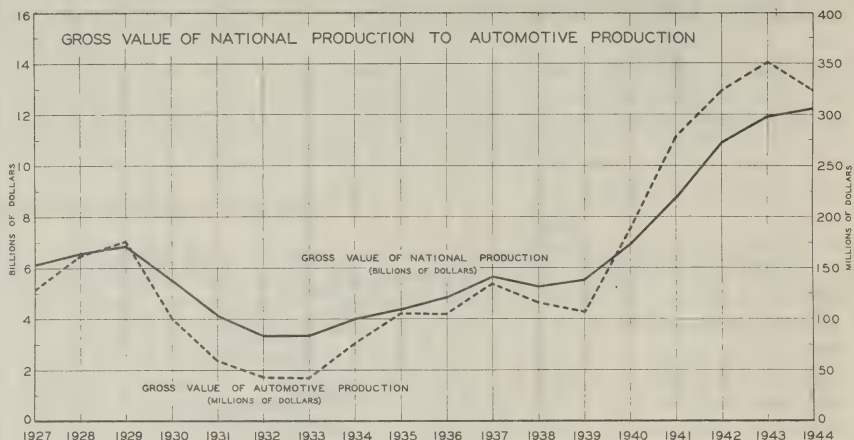


Table V--Strikes in the Automotive Industry 1929-1945

(Source: Labour Gazette, Department of Labour)

Year	Number Involved		Time loss In Man- Working Days
	Employers	Workers	
1929.....	2	63	470
1930.....	-	-	-
1931.....	-	-	-
1932.....	-	-	-
1933.....	-	-	-
1934.....	1	250	600
1935.....	1	150	450
1936.....	-	-	-
1937.....	4	4,840	55,540
1938.....	5	613	8,390
1939.....	1	20	500
1940.....	6	1,889	491
1941.....	6	4,234	50,995
1942.....	7	16,040	89,940
1943.....	11	19,415	69,897
1944.....	8	16,615	231,403
1945.....	3	10,893	916,150 ^x

^x Does not include 5 sympathy strikes with 15,606 workers time-loss of 163,372 man-working days during 1945.

Exports

Exports, as shown in the accompanying chart, form a most important segment of the industry's business. The basis for this trade is to be found in the commonwealth preferential tariff structure. While the Canadian tariff has been a major factor in the rise of the industry in this country, the preference clauses in the tariffs of several countries within the British Empire have been of immense assistance in the building up of an export trade. In fact, most Canadian exports of automobiles have been to other parts of the Empire. In the past, Australia, New Zealand, British South Africa and India have been the best customers.

This export trade has been most influential in shaping the structure of the whole industry, and, as already noted, it was hard hit by the business recession of the 30's but it later recovered more quickly. On the other hand, the opening up of markets in the southern hemisphere has offset the seasonality of production. The percentage of exports and re-exports to total production averaged 25 per cent from 1920-39, ranging from a low of 11 per cent in 1921 to 39 per cent in 1923. From 1930-39, the percentage remained fairly constant at slightly over 20. The statistics shown on the chart include military exports. The 1943 total on exports, which is larger than the total value of imports plus production, is due to the holdover of 1942 military production for shipment.

Imports

Tariff regulations are again the dominant factor in determining the flow of automobiles and parts into the country. These regulations, especially those relating to the importation of parts, have been subject to repeated changes and have been the centre of considerable discussion.⁽¹⁾ The relative importance of the three divisions of imports and exports is given in the following tables and it is interesting to note their extreme sensitivity to general economic conditions.

Table VI—Imports of Automobiles and Parts into Canada, 1928-1939

(Source: Iron and Steel and Their Products in Canada, 1938-1939)

Calendar Year	Passenger Cars		Trucks		Parts(c)	Total
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Value	Value
		\$		\$	\$	\$
1928.....	40,226	32,527,641	7,182	8,305,235	48,839,955	89,672,831
1929.....	39,446	32,605,958	5,278	6,817,176	44,772,091	84,195,225
1930.....	19,683	15,897,880	3,550	4,662,406	23,358,763	43,919,049
1931.....	7,492	5,766,895	1,246	1,613,939	14,442,570	21,823,404
1932.....	1,160	919,886	289	289,007	11,588,190	12,797,083
1933.....	1,098	759,341	683	444,927	10,836,590	12,040,858
1934.....	1,988	1,348,789	917	648,340	19,474,767	21,471,896
1935.....	3,133	2,021,142	978	789,609	24,517,832	27,328,583
1936.....	8,053	6,114,199	1,850	1,651,116	24,044,191	31,809,506
1937.....	17,267	13,393,081	2,802	2,791,879	32,774,858	48,959,818
1938.....	13,445	10,714,345	1,709	2,005,852	24,694,191	37,414,388
1939.....	16,585	13,724,752	1,699	1,949,018	25,308,352	40,982,122

(c) Does not include automobile engines

Table VII—Exports of Canadian Automobiles and Parts from Canada 1928-1939

(Source: Iron and Steel and their Products in Canada, 1938-1939)

Calendar Year	Passenger Cars		Trucks		Parts(c)	Total
	Number	Value	Number	Value	Value	Value
		\$		\$	\$	\$
1928.....	55,732	25,224,014	23,656	8,652,301	2,152,166	36,028,481
1929.....	64,863	29,824,433	36,848	14,831,006	2,350,232	47,005,671
1930.....	28,841	12,737,744	15,712	6,060,999	1,587,571	20,386,354
1931.....	9,282	4,011,921	4,531	1,779,751	829,838	6,621,510
1932.....	9,800	4,282,666	2,734	963,295	1,846,033	7,091,994
1933.....	15,828	6,812,989	4,575	1,693,070	1,337,302	9,843,361
1934.....	31,274	12,988,365	12,094	4,215,429	2,415,222	19,619,016
1935.....	47,592	16,885,736	16,738	6,082,846	2,925,667	25,894,249
1936.....	42,351	15,289,140	13,219	4,904,102	2,899,946	23,093,188
1937.....	43,801	15,921,282	22,066	7,941,782	2,919,981	26,783,045
1938.....	40,386	15,311,201	17,382	6,925,469	2,679,265	24,915,935
1939.....	38,548	14,394,463	19,955	8,156,528	2,991,697	25,542,708

(1) For a more detailed discussion of this point see O.J. MacDiarmid: Some aspects of the Canadian Automobile Industry. The Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science May, 1940.

(c) Does not include automobile engines

Seasonality

A study of employment fluctuations, as shown in the accompanying chart, reveals no precise seasonal pattern. Generally, employment reaches only one peak during the year, between May and July. From then until the early fall, the level drops gradually. There is considerable variation in seasonal amplitudes from year to year, with the greatest fluctuations occurring in boom periods. From peak to trough, the annual percentage increases in employment, during the period 1927 to 1945, range from 35 per cent to 130 per cent with a mean of 67 per cent. This indicates the extent of annual lay-off for large numbers of employees in the industry. Exports to southern hemisphere countries tend to reduce these seasonal fluctuations. During the war, unlimited demand smoothed out this seasonal curve and it is likely that this process will continue for the next two or three years.

It is a common belief, notably among trade unionists, that seasonal unemployment can be eliminated. There are several standard approaches to the problem. The most obvious of these is spreading total production evenly throughout the year and drawing on accumulated stocks during periods of active demand. Storage expenses, however, make this uneconomical in the automobile industry. Other methods are the standardization of products to minimize the danger of overstocking and supplementary production to fill in the slack periods. A fourth possibility, and one which seems to offer the best prospects for the automotive industry, is that of stimulating off-season demand by advertising and by lowering prices. The use of these combined methods should reduce seasonal unemployment in the industry to negligible proportions.

Cyclical trends (see accompanying chart)

Like all durable goods, demand for which is highly sensitive to variations in consumer income, the level of output in the automobile industry has been most responsive to movements of the general business cycle. Durable consumer goods industries experience fluctuations which in amplitude are more severe than those of almost any other segment of the economy. The influence of the recession of 1921 was quite strong in the industry and the prosperity of the late 20's saw the golden age of automobile production. The use of the car had been popularized by that time; reasonably comfortable and efficient models had been developed; money was plentiful and sales shot up to unprecedented heights. The production of the year 1929 (260,000 units) has never been approached in any peacetime year since. The automobile did, indeed, "epitomize the unreal and evanescent aspects of 1929 prosperity."

The advent of the depression had severe repercussions on demand. Consequently, production dropped precipitously from the 1929 peak, sinking to a low of 60,000 vehicles in 1932. In 1934, an upswing began which was fairly well maintained thereafter. But only a war could effect a return to operation at top capacity in the industry.

Cyclical unemployment then, heightened by seasonal unemployment, remains the danger in the future. The high proportion of exports to total production tends to accentuate these movements, as this ratio declines during the downswing of the major business cycle. Within these larger movements, a three-year cycle is apparent. Every third year, beginning in 1921 and with the exception of imports in 1927, a drop in consumption occurs which is felt not only in the domestic market but also in the import and export fields.

The basic fact which must be faced is that automobile manufacturing is a durable consumer goods industry and, try as it may, it cannot evade the "bete noir" of all industries of this type, extreme sensitivity to the business cycle.

Table VIII—World Production of Motor Vehicles 1934-1938

(Source: Automotive Division, Department of Commerce, Washington, U.S.A.)

Country	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Canada.....	116,852	172,877	162,159	207,463	166,086
France.....	201,644	179,270	201,737	201,934	214,989
Germany.....	173,014	242,934	297,512	331,894	352,369
Italy.....	43,416	45,208	43,600	66,000	69,118
United Kingdom.....	354,806	416,915	466,335	507,749	447,561
United States.....	2,753,111	3,946,934	4,454,115	4,808,974	2,489,085
U.S.S.R.....	72,466	97,000	138,400	199,123	210,731
All other Countries.....	20,532	25,542	35,644	47,234	50,814
World Total.....	3,735,841	5,126,680	5,799,502	6,370,371	4,000,753

Future Prospects

Table VIII shows that Canada's pre-war automobile output placed her well in the first rank of world producers. It is quite possible that this favourable position may be threatened in the near future, as the export market for Canadian cars may be considerably diminished. Australia, British South Africa, and India, among others, would like to establish their own automotive industries. The United Kingdom is now setting aside 50 per cent of her automotive production in an effort to capture a larger share of the world export market. Outside the market created by the imperial preference system, Canada, with her high production costs, cannot hope to compete successfully.

Should some of our export fields be cut off, the importance of the home market will thus become correspondingly greater and efforts will be made to boost domestic sales. There are several minor factors which could contribute to higher demand—more efficient and comfortable models, design changes, easy financing, super-highways—and a multitude of other factors which influence the consumer in apportioning his income. It is quite possible that the number of cars per capita might be increased—the United States has twice as many cars per person as Canada has—and the larger market thus created would enable the Canadian manufacturer to take greater advantage of the economies of mass production which would lead to lower prices. But the necessary prerequisite to a high level of demand in the automotive industry is a high and stable level of consumer income. For two or three years at least, the present sellers' market in cars will continue. But in the long run, only general prosperity can ensure a permanent high level of employment in the automotive industry.

PART III

AREA ANALYSIS

Section 1:—A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

The evaluation of the seriousness of unemployment in any area can be based upon the long or short term prospects of the local labour market. If the particular labour market is being studied from the point of view of its long term prospects, then the interpretation must be based in a large part on qualitative factors. If, however, the labour market in any area is being assessed solely on the basis of its current characteristics and its short term prospects, then the interpretation can be based almost entirely on quantitative data. It must be emphasized that it is the quantitative type of evaluation which is employed in the rating of each area of this section. More detailed and long term evaluation is attempted in the descriptive section of each area study.

The selection of a satisfactory measure is thus the first problem in classifying the relative seriousness of unemployment in different labour market areas. The number of unemployed is not alone a satisfactory measure, as the volume of unemployment must be related to some figure which measures the size of the area. This figure might be the population of the area, the number in the local labour force, or the numbers that are employed in the area. Since labour force figures, which provide the most satisfactory measure, are at present unobtainable, an estimate of employment (total wage and salary workers) is used. It should be noted that this is a more variable quantity than the total labour force, emphasizing short-term changes to a relatively high degree.

The second and more difficult problem is that of distinguishing various ranges of unemployment. Some unemployment is unavoidable in a dynamic economy as workers move from one job to another, as those leaving school fit themselves into their vocations, as older workers slowly withdraw from the labour force, and as seasonal workers shift to new jobs. An economy in which even "full employment" has been reached will necessarily have some unemployment. During 1943 and 1944, Canada more than achieved full employment. If the ratios are computed for June 1 of each of these years, it is found that there were 27 and 22 workers out of work per 1,000 employed at each of these dates respectively. However, this was a period when unemployment was at an even lower level than that existing at even the most prosperous periods of peacetime employment. Many workers had jobs when under less abnormal conditions they would have been unemployed or on the fringe of employability. Therefore, it does not seem unreasonable to define a ratio of 50 or less unemployed per 1,000 employed workers as the level of unemployment which would exist under satisfactory employment conditions.

Evaluation of other levels of unemployment can proceed on the basis of comparison with the past. At June 2, 1941, there were 280,000 unemployed in Canada, according to the results of the Decennial Census. If the above-mentioned ratio is computed for this period, a figure of 113 is obtained, suggesting that a second suitable range might be from 50 to 150.

Estimates of unemployment in Canada at June 1, 1939, range from 550,000 to 650,000. Ratios, computed on the basis of these figures, range from 175 to 303. It is reasonable, therefore, to describe a more serious level of unemployment as that indicated by ratios ranging from 150 to 300.

Finally, all ratios above 300 can be viewed as a category of a still more serious nature. The schedules of the 1931 Decennial Census did not have a question which would segregate all those between 14 and 20 years of age who were seeking work for the first time but had not yet found a job. If, however, this group can be estimated as only slightly smaller than that which existed in 1941, an estimate of unemployment as at June 1, 1931, of 600,000 is obtained. For that date the ratio would be 310. During the years following 1931, unemployment increased, and thus the ratio would also become greater. All ratios over 300, therefore, can be taken as indicating levels of unemployment comparable to those that existed in the early Thirties.

In summary, the categories outlined above are as follows:

Group I--Areas in which over 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties".

Group I

Group II--Areas in which between 150 and 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III--Areas in which 50 to 150 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV--Areas in which under 50 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Slight, that is, in general it is that which would exist under conditions of full employment according to the experience of the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be emphasized that this measure is only a simple and crude means of evaluating short-term relative levels of unemployment from area to area, and should therefore only be depended upon to indicate in general where more detailed investigation is necessary.

Accompanying each individual area study in the remainder of this section is a table presenting selected data of labour demand and supply. For purpose of comparison a similar table for Canada as a whole is shown below:

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	82,747	266,428	18.4	95.9	58.1	83,029	31.2	61,018
May 12/46	111,455	242,714	18.8	93.3	—	81,207	33.5	61,292
May 16/46	112,064	220,814	19.8	92.9	Employment Estimate - 2,766,600			

On the following page is presented a table which shows the group rating for each area as at May 16, 1946, with comparable ratings for April 11, 1946 and March 14, 1946. The page number of each area study is also shown in the table to facilitate reference.

The figure accompanying the title of each area analysed in the remainder of this section (from pages 63 to 83 inclusive) represents the number unemployed per 1,000 employed workers in each area.

Index to Areas Analyzed in this Section with Comparable
Ratings for Two Selected Previous Dates

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		Mar. 14, 1946	April 11, 1946	May 16, 1946
63	Collingwood	I	I	I
63	Fort Erie	I	I	I
64	Pictou and New Glasgow	I	I	I
64	Oshawa	I	I	I
65	Sydney (a)	II	II	II
65	Amherst	II	I	II
66	Sorel	I	I	II
66	Quebec (b)	II	II	II
67	Chicoutimi	II	II	II
67	Fort William and Port Arthur	II	II	II
68	Valleyfield	II	II	II
68	Welland	II	II	III
69	Hull	III	III	III
69	Windsor	II	II	III
70	Vancouver (c)	III	III	III
70	Shawinigan Falls	II	II	III
71	Winnipeg	III	III	III
71	Three Rivers	III	III	III
72	Ste. Therese	II	II	III
72	Saint John	III	III	III
73	Calgary (d)	III	III	III
73	Montreal (e)	III	III	III
74	St. Catharines	III	III	III
74	Sudbury	III	III	III
75	Ottawa	III	III	III
75	Edmonton	III	III	III
76	Hamilton	III	III	III
76	Victoria	III	III	III
77	Regina	III	III	III
77	Trail	III	III	III
78	Halifax	III	III	IV
78	Saskatoon	III	III	IV
79	Peterborough	IV	IV	IV
79	Toronto (f)	IV	IV	IV
80	Kingston	IV	IV	IV
80	Brantford	IV	IV	IV
81	Sault Ste. Marie	IV	IV	IV
81	Niagara Falls	III	III	IV
82	London	III	IV	IV
82	Sherbrooke	IV	IV	IV
83	Kitchener-Waterloo	IV	IV	IV

(a) Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.

(b) Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

(c) Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

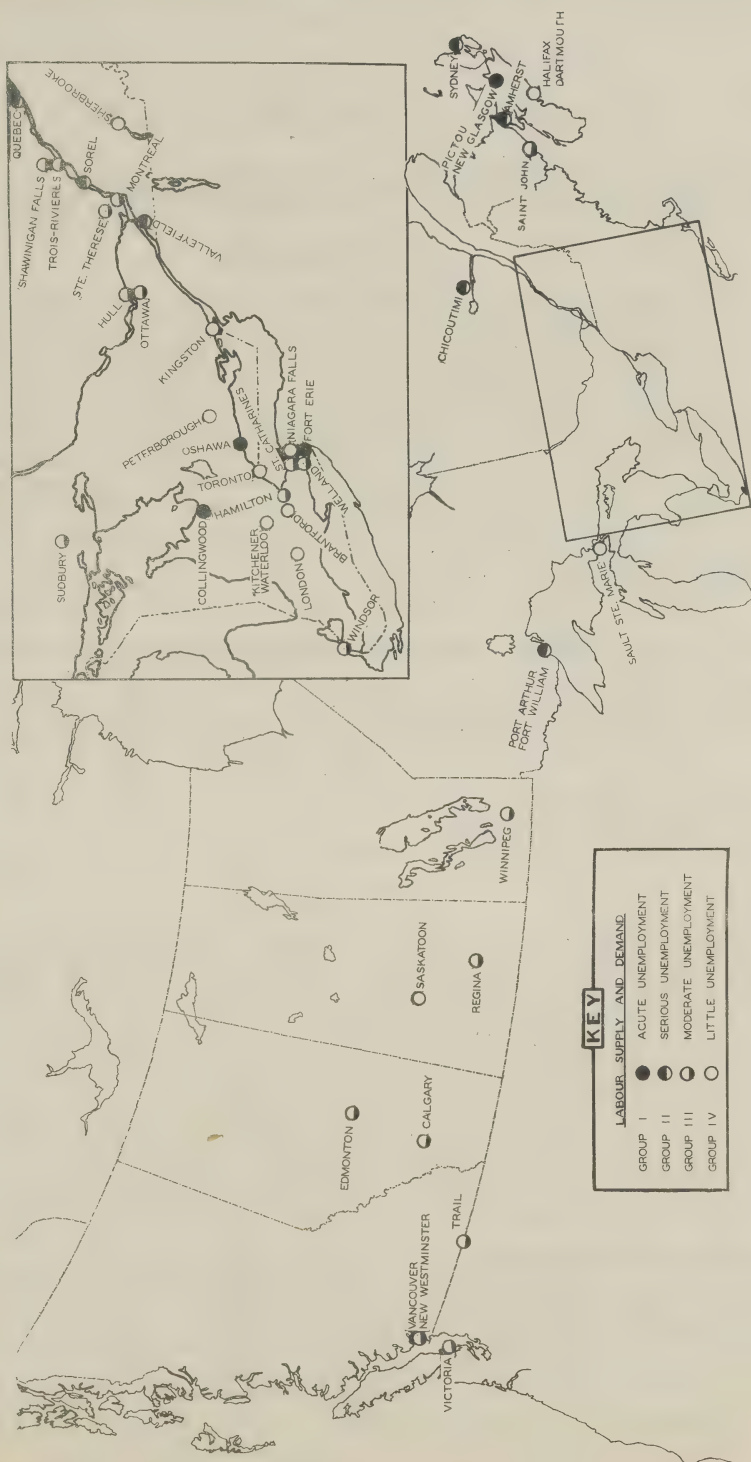
(d) Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

(e) Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles, St. Paul 1'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue,

(f) Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston,

A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

AS AT MAY 16, 1946



PICTOU - NEW GLASGOW - 389

Situation stable — The three primary industries in this area are the manufacturing of railway rolling stock, steel shipbuilding and coal mining. On April 25, the Eastern Car Company laid off 400 men for four days because of slow steel shipments, but now has sufficient materials to finish the Belgian order, which is nearing completion. At the present time this company has only enough orders on hand to keep operating on a reduced scale until August. The short lay-off has not affected the steel foundry department of the Maritime Steel and Foundries Limited which depends on the Eastern Car Company for steel castings. The shipbuilding division of the Pictou Foundry and Machine Company Limited is hampered by lack of materials. Apart from small industrial disputes, coal mining has remained at the same level for the past several months. Fish processing plants are operating at full capacity, but no shortage of help is being experienced as yet. There has been a marked increase in demand for woodsmen and sawmill workers. Openings for male workers are very limited, and apart from the usual requirements for domestics, female demand is at a standstill.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	70	2,781	9.4	99.6	76.7	1,019	36.6	30.1
May 2/46	92	2,843	9.2	98.3	-	1,169	41.1	36.3
May 16/46	57	2,837	9.1	99.8	Employment Estimate - 7,300			

OSHAWA - 366

Situation improving — General Motors of Canada Limited have again commenced operations and are re-hiring many of their former employees. As a result, a corresponding reduction has occurred in the number of unplaced applicants registered at the National Employment Service Office. Although all former employees of General Motors will not be rehired, many of those still unemployed will be placed through clearance orders. The Massey-Harris Company's plant in Brantford will provide jobs for at least 150 of these workers. At present, lack of housing is the main drawback to any large-scale movement of labour from Oshawa to cities where workers are needed. If the soft coal strike in the United States is not settled in the near future, the effects on the automobile and allied industries in Oshawa will be drastic, so dependent are they on supplies from the United States. Among male unemployed, there is a heavy labour surplus in the unskilled labour, and skilled and semi-skilled metal worker groups. Female unplaced applicants are largely clerical and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vac.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	362	6,447	32.4	98.7	71.2	1,476	22.9	14.3
May 2/46	568	5,014	33.4	97.5	-	1,362	27.2	21.7
May 16/46	422	4,244	36.4	97.7	Employment Estimate - 11,600			

GROUP II

Areas in Which Unemployment is Serious
(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, from 150 to 300 are Unemployed)

SYDNEY - 276

Situation stable—The coal and steel industry, while a time-proven and long-term source of employment in Sydney, lacks the ability in its present state to expand sufficiently to absorb the surplus labour which has accumulated since the end of the war. Unfavourable weather has retarded planting and the need for farm help is slight. The lobster season has opened in Richmond County and all fishermen are busy. The collieries located in the Sydney area are working steadily and the 200 vacancies available will be filled with re-instatements. All departments of the Sydney Steel Plant are in operation, with no labour demand reported. Construction is now more active, and placements of carpenters and construction labourers are increasing rapidly. The Canadian National Railway has hired 50 labourers for railway maintenance work. Most female applicants are registered for clerical and factory work, for which there is little demand, while domestic positions go begging. Aside from the vacancies in coal mining, the number of jobs available for male applicants is very limited.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	498	4,620	12.3	99.2	40.4	2,207	47.8	40.3
May 2/46	529	5,224	11.4	97.8	—	2,651	50.7	45.1
May 16/46	459	5,300	10.7	98.3	Employment Estimate - 19,200			

AMHERST - 273

Situation stable—The industrial outlook for Amherst is much brighter, for the short run at least. At present the greatest problem to be surmounted is the general shortage of supplies which is preventing the textiles, leather, and steel industries from expanding employment to meet a large demand. Coupled with this is the continuing shortage of building materials, preventing the hiring of many unskilled workers of whom there is an abundance. Maritime Industries Ltd. will establish a salt plant in Amherst this summer employing approximately 135 persons; the contract for structural steel for this project has been let to the Robb Engineering Company of Amherst which is well supplied with orders at present. Logging operations are completed in the area but a few portable saw mills will operate during the summer. Rainy weather has prevented farmers from working on the land, and at present labour needs are slight. The Canadian National Railway has absorbed 120 men and requires an additional 48 on railway maintenance. Aside from a small demand for heavy labourers, vacancies are practically non-existent for both men and women.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	13	1,105	22.2	99.0	52.6	430	38.9	34.8
May 2/46	92	1,162	19.2	94.6	—	480	41.3	36.3
May 16/46	106	1,121	20.2	93.8	Employment Estimate - 4,100			

SOREL - 264

Situation improving—Aside from the service industries and a few small factories which are working steadily, employment conditions in Sorel are in a state of flux. Sorel Industries Ltd. employing approximately 2,700 men at their wartime peak now employs 400. The company has sufficient work on hand to maintain employment for a month or so, but the future is uncertain. Marine Industries Ltd. now employs 1,850 men, an addition of 300 in the last several weeks, and if required material is received, 1,200 more men will be hired; conversely, if the material does not arrive employees will have to be laid-off. There are sufficient applicants available for construction work with the exception of bricklayers and plumbers. Male applicants are greatly diversified, a large proportion being metal-workers. The light demand for female workers is principally in the textile and domestic fields.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	254	2,404	3.8	99.2	92.6	79	3.3	3.1
May 2/46	177	1,860	11.8	99.9	—	73	3.9	3.6
May 16/46	115	1,638	14.0	98.3	Employment Estimate - 6,200			

QUEBEC - 220

Situation improving—Present indications suggest that the peak of unemployment has been passed in this city. The pulp and paper industry is opening up and the spring logging drive is now underway. The Quebec North Shore Paper Company has begun work on an addition to its mill, planning to double production when the work is completed. In connection with its logging activity this company is constructing a new road, and will hire approximately 2,000 men for the project. As the majority of workers required are of the unskilled type, little difficulty is expected in obtaining labour. In the manufacturing field, the Master Craft Uniform Company recently received a contract from the Federal Government and has rehired 250 former employees. Unprecedented expansion has taken place in the printing and publishing industry, causing an acute shortage of skilled tradesmen throughout the industry. Among male job seekers there is a heavy surplus of the following types of workers: electricians, machinists, welders and flame cutters, truck drivers, and labourers. The number of female clerical workers, waitresses, charwomen, skilled and semi-skilled textile workers, and unskilled workers is in excess of demand, while domestic servants are in extremely short supply.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	442	16,114	32.0	98.8	74.4	2,120	13.2	10.1
May 2/46	1,571	14,893	32.8	98.5	—	3,361	15.9	12.9
May 16/46	1,530	13,791	33.7	98.6	Employment Estimate - 62,600			

CHICOUTIMI - 192

Situation improving — Increased production in the aluminum and construction industries coupled with the general upward trend of activity in lesser industries, is reflected in the drop in unemployment since April 11. The Aluminum Company of Canada has received a new contract which will serve to maintain employment at about 4,000 for several years. Another pot-room will be opened up on June 10 which will necessitate the hiring of an additional 300 workers. With the spring cut and river driving well under way, the demand for loggers is increasing. Many of the unemployed men in this area are now accepting work in the bush. A further reduction in the number of unplaced labourers is anticipated as work on the Chicoutimi - Laterriere - Quebec highway progresses. A considerable number of construction workers, skilled and semi-skilled metal workers, and labourers are still unemployed, while demand is chiefly for loggers. Clerical and sales workers constitute almost 75 per cent of the total female unplaced applicants.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	1,141	1,346	12.7	97.6	76.2	98	7.3	4.7
May 2/46	1,155	1,329	11.3	96.8	—	109	8.2	6.4
May 16/46	1,216	1,055	15.7	95.0	Employment Estimate - 5,500			

FORT WILLIAM AND PORT ARTHUR - 185

Situation improving — The Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company has virtually ceased to be an important factor in employment at least for the present, as layoffs continue. Employment at the Canadian Car and Foundry Company increased steadily, from 875 at April 22, to 1,175 on May 22, and a further slight rise is anticipated. Demand for construction workers is high as 200 dwellings are in the process of construction at this date. Miners and muckers are required throughout the district, demand existing for 200 men, but housing accommodation is limited. The withdrawal of German prisoners-of-war from the pulpwood camps has begun, accentuating the already serious shortage of experienced pulpwood workers—approximately 2,000 men, principally cutters, are required. Paper mills in the district are busy, and one new mill scheduled to open in two months requires all types of labour. The brickyard at Rosslyn is active but this plant will be badly hit if the coal strike continues. A large number of brakemen and locomotive engineers have been laid off as grain shipments have been curtailed owing to lack of coal. Most of the men out of work are clerical workers, metalworkers, and truck drivers. Female unemployment is more severe, with few openings for work in evidence.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	1,777	4,736	31.0	94.9	69.6	1,067	22.5	13.8
May 2/46	3,099	4,321	31.7	91.2	—	1,139	26.4	13.9
May 16/46	3,162	3,995	34.1	89.6	Employment Estimate - 21,600			

VALLEYFIELD - 156

Situation stable—Post-war expansion in textiles, the most important peacetime industry in Valleyfield, has tended to aggravate rather than improve the already unbalanced labour situation. The decline of activity in the explosives industry resulted in a large number of men being laid off. Recent expansion in textiles increased the shortage of women, but did not provide sufficient jobs for the displaced male workers. Several new industries have been established in Valleyfield since the war but these have not created sufficient employment to lessen noticeably the total number of unplaced applicants. Male labour demand is chiefly for skilled and unskilled textile workers, but the low wages prevalent in these occupations are not attractive to applicants. In the female labour field there is a steady demand for all types of textile workers whereas unplaced applicants are for the most part clerical workers, sales women, and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	228	1,195	8.6	93.9	74.3	137	11.5	5.8
May 2/46	284	1,173	10.2	91.4	—	152	13.0	9.5
May 16/46	221	891	15.8	91.0	Employment Estimate - 5,700			

GROUP III

Areas in Which Unemployment is Moderate

(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, from 50 to 150 are Unemployed)

WELLAND - 132

Situation improving—Peak unemployment in Welland was reached in March, 1946 when unplaced applicants outnumbered unfilled vacancies by 10 to 1. Since then, however, conditions have improved, and at the latest reporting date the ratio of applicants to jobs was 4 to 1. Improvements have occurred chiefly in the male labour field, while the female situation has remained fairly stable. Expansion in some industries has been held up by shortages of coal and steel, while others are in need of highly skilled workers. Construction is very active at the present time, but here again fully qualified tradesmen are in short supply. Currently, clerical workers, electricians, machinists, truck drivers, and unskilled labourers are most numerous among male unemployed. In the female field demand is chiefly for service workers, textile workers and unskilled workers; supply is concentrated in the clerical, sales, and unskilled labour classifications.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	257	1,516	52.8	97.4	75.2	190	12.5	7.8
May 2/46	244	1,372	52.1	97.3	—	178	13.0	6.7
May 16/46	400	1,173	51.7	95.7	Employment Estimate - 8,900			

HULL - 124

Situation improving—Industry in Hull is widely diversified. Pulp and paper products, building materials, textiles, clothing, and iron and steel products are some of the many commodities manufactured or processed in this city. Lumbering also plays an important part in Hull's economy. The seasonal expansion in lumbering and allied industries is reflected in the decline of male unemployment at the end of April. Canada Packers Ltd. recently released 50 employees, insufficient shipments of cattle curtailing production in meat-packing. Lay-offs have also taken place at the Hull Iron and Steel Foundries. Construction in the city itself is not very active, but at least 75 houses will be built this summer in Shawville, Campbell's Bay, and Fort Coulonge which are included in the Hull area. Male unemployed outnumber vacancies by approximately three to one. Current job opportunities are chiefly for loggers, farm workers and heavy labourers, while the majority of applicants lack the necessary physical qualifications needed for such work. There is a steady demand for female service workers, sewing machine operators, and unskilled factory workers, with few suitable applicants available.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	536	1,506	8.3	97.3	48.9	553	36.7	24.4
May 2/46	486	1,375	11.9	95.3	—	534	38.8	29.4
May 16/46	559	1,360	12.4	93.2	Employment Estimate - 11,000			

WINDSOR - 122

Situation improving—The economy of this city is closely tied up with American industrial activity, the majority of Windsor factories being dependent on supplies of coal, steel, and finished parts from the United States. Although the automobile industry has been seriously affected by labour disputes south of the border, overall employment conditions in Windsor are on the upgrade. Average weekly placements between April 11 and May 16 were more than one-third higher than those reported March 14 and April 11. Unplaced applicants dropped 37 per cent between April 11 and May 16. The Ford Motor Company has laid off 1,500 workers during the past week, but expect to be able to re-instate them shortly. Other plants are working on a day-to-day basis. Male labour demand is chiefly for highly skilled workers such as welders, carpenters, mechanics etc., but few such tradesmen are available locally. On the other hand there is a heavy labour surplus among male clerical workers, semi-skilled metal workers and light labourers. Currently, female applicants outnumber vacancies by approximately 20 to 1, with unemployment most serious among clerical and sales workers, and semi-skilled and unskilled factory workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	599	8,315	28.2	98.7	62.2	2,325	28.0	24.5
May 2/46	1,129	6,199	33.7	92.8	—	1,710	27.9	23.7
May 16/46	812	5,751	47.2	95.6	Employment Estimate - 47,200			

VANCOUVER - 119

Situation improving—During the eight weeks previous to the lumber strike an average of 120 new jobs a week became available in the logging, construction, and mining industries, but now logging and sawmill camps are shut down with the result that construction activity is virtually non-existent. Labour unrest is affecting the mining industry although there are no strikes as yet. Shipyards are beginning to feel the effects of the lumber and foundry strikes, and shipwrights are being laid off. Shipyard staffs have already been slashed as compared with wartime employment - Burrard Dry Dock now employs 2,700 compared with 10,000; North Van Ship Repairs and West Coast Shipbuilders average 750 employees each, compared to a former combined strength of 11,000. Opportunities are finally increasing for truck drivers. There is still a large proportion of male unplaced applicants who are metalworkers, mechanics, and service workers. The shortage of experienced female typists and stenographers still exists, despite many applicants on file. Waitresses for summer employment in the city and summer resorts are urgently required, and some businesses may close down if such help cannot be obtained.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	3,921	24,037	18.9	95.0	54.9	8,099	33.7	32.3
May 2/46	5,205	22,106	18.4	94.4	—	7,336	33.2	24.4
May 16/46	5,198	20,683	17.2	93.6	Employment Estimate - 173,400			

SHAWINIGAN FALLS - 112

Situation improving—Unemployment in this city has been reduced by approximately 50 per cent since last winter, chiefly because of expanded construction activity. Applicants are still numerous, however, because of men returning from the woods. The largest reduction in employment since the end of the war has occurred in the Aluminum Company of Canada, which employed approximately 700 men at March 1 as compared with 2,400 men at top war strength. Employment in Shawinigan Chemicals Limited, now standing at approximately 1,400 men has declined about 22 per cent since the war although the number employed is still considerably higher than the pre-war level. Several other industries have been forced to reduce their staffs temporarily because of coal shortages. Pulp and paper mills are active. Aside from a light demand for domestics, female requirements are negligible. Many heavy labourers, construction workers, electrical workers, and metalworkers are among the male applicants.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	22	2,023	14.2	99.7	86.0	84	4.2	1.6
May 2/46	17	1,519	21.1	100.0	—	92	6.1	3.0
May 16/46	29	1,160	27.7	99.6	Employment Estimate - 10,400			

WINNIPEG - 106

Situation improving—Winnipeg is the manufacturing centre of the prairie provinces. Two of the larger plants recently established are the Ray-O-Vac battery factory which expects to be in production this year, employing 250 persons; and the Canada Ply Craft Company, building canoes and boats. Mining activity is increasing at Herb Lake, Granville Lake, and Falcon Lake but there are few skilled miners available. The economic outlook for the steel fabrication industry is uncertain and with no prospect of improvement before 1947. Railways have shown a good demand for clerical help, cargo handlers and track labourers, these vacancies being promptly filled. Demand in the logging industry is brisk but men do not desire such work at this time of year. Construction activity is increasing, and with the shortage of skilled painters, employers are being encouraged to accept partially-skilled applicants. Unplaced male applicants are greatly diversified with a preponderance of unskilled, and clerical workers. Requirements for female domestics are high, and for clerical and sales workers, fair.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	2,370	14,389	18.4	93.8	49.5	6,300	43.8	35.0
May 2/46	3,716	13,831	17.8	93.6	—	6,578	47.6	40.3
May 16/46	3,270	15,529	18.9	93.9	Employment Estimate - 127,800			

THREE RIVERS - 98

Situation improving—Seasonal expansion in the construction industry has brought about a slight improvement in the employment situation in the Three Rivers area, but there still remains a large surplus of workers for whom there is no available employment. If sufficient materials could be obtained for the numerous construction projects on hand, several hundred additional men would be provided with employment for the summer months. Local pulp and paper mills are maintaining a high level of production, and new employees are being engaged regularly. The textile industry is very active at the present time; but labour demand is slight. Male labour supply exceeds demand in almost every occupational classification, but especially in the following: clerical workers, sales workers, electricians, carpenters, machinists, welders, truck drivers, and labourers. Most numerous among female unplaced applicants are clerical workers, sewing-machine operators, other skilled and semi-skilled workers, and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	201	3,373	23.3	97.3	67.2	375	11.1	6.1
May 2/46	240	3,547	21.8	97.7	—	391	11.0	6.0
May 16/46	263	3,073	23.4	96.5	Employment Estimate - 31,500			

STE.THERESE - 97

Situation improving—Sto.Theresa has recovered rapidly from the deflation of war-time employment, and prospects for the future are bright. At the present time applicants outnumber jobs by less than two to one, and in relation to total employed workers, unemployment in this area is not serious. The majority of local manufacturers have sufficient help for the present, with the exception of the piano and furniture factories, which are in need of experienced cabinet makers and wood-working machine operators. Construction of the Andreof Sporting Goods factory is under way, and it is expected that operations will start in the fall. At April 30, the number of unplaced veterans was 34, but many of these ex-servicemen live outside Sto. Theresa and lack of adequate transportation facilities prevents them from accepting employment in town. Of the 210 male unemployed, 17 are clerical workers, 140 are "other skilled and semi-skilled", and 28 are unskilled workers. Female unplaced applicants are, for the most part, unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	230	756	27.5	96.4	80.8	36	4.8	3.0
May 2/46	260	545	37.1	96.7	—	34	6.2	3.3
May 16/46	247	408	48.5	90.0	Employment Estimate - 4,200			

SAINT JOHN - 80

Situation stable—Saint John's position, as the trade, service, and transportation centre of the Saint John river valley, is more firmly established than before the war. Forestry and agriculture will be "reception" industries for the unemployed. Boosts in wage rates have occurred in both fields, and in the case of agriculture there is a greater diversification in production accompanied by higher income than pre-war. Local fishermen are having a fair season. Logging activity is slight due to bad weather but it is felt that saw mills will be more active this summer. Manufacturing plants are well staffed. Construction is progressing well despite a shortage of first class carpenters in this area. Work along the harbour front is now at a minimum, leaving a large surplus of port workers, although many of these men will accept work as construction labourers during the summer. Coal dealers have small supplies on hand and several are laying off men temporarily. Most of the men now idle are light factory labourers, truck drivers, clerical, and service workers. There is a heavy demand for female service, clerical, and sales workers, with few suitable applicants.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	551	1,842	6.3	97.4	23.7	1,007	54.7	37.9
May 2/46	685	2,286	5.1	96.5	—	1,323	57.9	40.7
May 16/46	774	2,216	5.3	96.5	Employment Estimate - 27,800			

CALGARY - 78

Situation improving — Retail and wholesale trade, services, transportation, construction, mining (non-metallic), and finance, support the bulk of the working population in Calgary, employing many more persons than manufacturing. The three largest sources of employment in manufacturing are foodstuffs, railway rolling stock, and petroleum products. Among the larger businesses now being established or enlarged are:- Union Packing Co., building a \$75,000 addition to increase production by 50 per cent; Midwest Chemical Co., building a \$500,000 laundry soap factory; and Greyhound Bus Co., building a \$500,000 machine shop to employ 175 men. Demand for agricultural workers has fallen off considerably as seeding is nearly completed. Contractors are holding orders for carpenters in abeyance until the B.C. loggers' strike is settled, as the city's lumber firms have only enough material to last about ten days. There are still 1,055 War II veterans on file at May 22, job opportunities decreasing rapidly. A heavy demand exists for waitresses, kitchen help, and domestics, with very few applicants; but many clerical and sales workers are available.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	947	4,652	14.4	95.7	43.1	2,244	48.2	37.1
May 2/46	1,352	4,016	16.1	93.2	—	1,932	48.1	34.4
May 16/46	1,357	3,468	19.3	93.7	Employment Estimate - 44,300			

MONTREAL - 70

Situation improving—The employment situation in Montreal, in line with the trend throughout the Quebec region is showing a rapid improvement. Two months ago, at March 14, the ratio of unfilled vacancies to unemployed applicants was approximately 3 to 1, while at May 16, applicants outnumbered jobs by only 3 to 2. The entire light manufacturing field in Montreal displays over-increasing activity. Orders are plentiful, and it is only lack of plant facilities and materials that prevents tremendous production and employment expansion. Despite the fact that veterans are entering the labour market in increasing numbers, unemployed ex-servicemen are fewer in number than they have been since February 1, 1946. In the white collar occupations there are many job opportunities, but applicants are still asking for higher salaries than are generally offered. Most numerous among the male unemployed are the following types of workers: professional and managerial workers, clerical workers, truck drivers, heavy labourers, and light factory labourers. Female workers are in short supply, stenographers and typists, service workers, sewing machine operators, and unskilled workers being particularly difficult to obtain.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	15,336	39,801	16.3	95.1	67.3	7,295	18.3	12.2
May 2/46	19,791	35,873	17.7	88.3	—	5,953	16.6	12.0
May 16/46	20,725	31,281	20.1	87.3	Employment Estimate - 447,800			

ST. CATHARINES - 70

Situation improving--The labour shortage is becoming more pronounced, while the number of unplaced applicants and persons drawing unemployment insurance continues to decline. There is work in the St. Catharines area for any able-bodied person capable of doing a full day's work. The remaining unemployed are, for the most part, persons who, because of physical or mental limitations, are almost impossible to place. The large number of female workers recorded as unplaced applicants is deceiving; field reports indicate that many of these women took jobs to help the war effort and are now drawing unemployment insurance benefits, there being no available jobs suiting their limited qualifications. Textiles, iron and steel, and construction are becoming increasingly active, and canning factories in the district will shortly reach full production. Demand for farm help and semi-skilled metal workers is most urgent. Female service workers and unskilled workers are in short supply.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	491	3,235	33.3	98.5	68.6	708	21.9	16.0
May 2/46	541	2,029	42.2	97.8	—	461	22.7	13.6
May 16/46	690	1,782	47.3	96.0	Employment Estimate - 25,600			

SUDBURY - 69

Situation improving--The base metal mines, back-bone of Sudbury's industrial life, are now entering into their busiest season. Working staffs are being enlarged, and production stepped up. Increased activity is also evident in the logging industry, with sawmills throughout the district running at full capacity. Operators report that labour turnover is larger than during the war, and pulpwood cutters and river drivers are in short supply. There are plenty of job openings for men having special qualifications, such as loggers, skilled construction workers, first class mechanics, and cooks, but labour supply is made up largely of clerical, and unskilled workers. Since heavy industry predominates in Sudbury, there are relatively few employment opportunities for women. However, demand is fairly steady for domestic help, waitresses and cooks, with few applicants interested in this type of work.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	325	2,190	29.3	89.3	57.0	424	19.4	11.9
May 2/46	693	2,076	30.8	88.1	—	414	19.9	14.5
May 16/46	894	1,737	31.0	80.7	Employment Estimate - 25,200			

OTTAWA - 69

Situation stable—Ottawa, primarily a government, trade and service centre, lacks the industrial diversification necessary for a properly balanced economy. As a result there is a preponderance of heavy labourers and unskilled workers among male unplaced applicants. Warmer weather has brought about an improvement in this situation, with work such as road building, construction and other projects, involving heavy labour, showing seasonal expansion. A considerable number of labourers could be placed through clearance orders, but applicants are reluctant to leave this city. There is also a large surplus of job seekers in the light labour class; the fact that many of these applicants are over age or physically unfit makes it almost impossible to place them. Clerical workers, truck drivers, and other skilled and semiskilled workers also rank high among male unemployed. In the female field, there is an exceptionally large demand for stenographers, typists, and service workers. With labour supply scarce, employers are now accepting married women whereas latterly demand was limited to single women.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	1,623	4,091	17.7	94.9	44.2	1,684	41.2	28.6
May 2/46	2,107	3,983	23.5	95.8	—	1,778	44.6	32.8
May 16/46	1,963	3,952	23.8	95.5	Employment Estimate - 57,400			

EDMONTON - 68

Situation stable—The Alberta foothills are now the scene of concentrated activity in both coal and oil exploration and development, and two major companies are interested in the possibility of merchandizing Alberta hard coal on a national scale. Coal mining is slack in the Edmonton area but skilled miners are reluctant to move into other coal fields. The Aircraft industry (Predominantly Aircraft Parts and Repairs Ltd.) suffered a severe slump, from 2,005 employees at July 1, 1943, to 185 employees at January 1, 1945. Aircraft Parts and Repairs Ltd., now called Northwest Industries, is to produce aircraft for bush flying and will eventually employ 400 persons. Seeding operations are well under way, demand for farm help diminishing. The materials situation is critical for sash and door factories. Skilled construction men are in good demand with a scarcity of bricklayers. A large number of veterans on out-of-work allowances are waiting for vocational training courses. There are still many male truck drivers, clerical, and service workers idle. Demand is high for female domestic workers although the number of unskilled clerical, and sales workers, unplaced is large.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	1,265	5,601	14.6	96.8	38.8	2,880	51.4	28.9
May 2/46	2,315	5,054	15.1	91.2	—	2,802	55.4	32.0
May 16/46	1,949	4,281	18.2	77.7	Employment Estimate - 63,400			

HAMILTON - 66

Situation stable—Hamilton, with its preponderance of heavy industry, has been particularly affected by the industrial disputes in the United States. Under normal conditions the iron and steel industry would be showing signs of expansion at this time of year. However, because of the current shortage of iron and coal supplies, production has fallen off, and demand for general and semi-skilled labour is practically non-existent. Canadian Westinghouse laid-off 100 men a month ago, and to date has not recalled any of these employees. The rubber workers strike, threatening to take place any day, has curtailed activity in firms such as the Firestone Company. There continues to be an acute shortage of skilled workers in almost every industry, but particularly in construction and textiles. Among male applicants, a large surplus of clerical workers, truck drivers and heavy labourers exists. Numerically, female labour demand and supply are well-balanced, although textile and service workers are urgently required. Applicants are concentrated in the clerical, skilled and semi-skilled, and unskilled labour classifications.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	2,329	6,458	21.9	95.4	60.9	1,797	27.8	21.4
May 2/46	2,747	5,951	23.1	92.5	—	1,604	27.0	22.6
May 16/46	2,432	5,346	25.5	91.5	Employment Estimate - 80,500			

VICTORIA - 62

Situation stable—Contracts for Yarrows Limited (shipbuilding) are nearing completion and this company expects to lay-off 50 per cent of the present force of 597 by the end of the month, if other contracts are not forthcoming. This working force is already small compared to some 3,000 workers employed during the war. Victoria Machinery Depot is fairly busy converting vessels, and now employs approximately 1,000 men, a 50 per cent decrease from war employment. The logging industry is crippled by the current strike. The construction industry is handicapped by this strike, but contractors are endeavouring in every way to retain their skilled men. Three weeks appears to be the maximum length of time that most crews can be held together. Coastal shipping companies are having difficulty in obtaining men, and a similar situation exists in securing men for railway maintenance gangs. Most of the male unemployed are unskilled workers, metalworkers, clerical, and service workers while female demand is generally active. There are more workers idle in the clerical and unskilled classifications than in other occupational groups.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	1,011	3,046	15.8	96.1	49.6	1,377	45.2	29.4
May 2/46	1,232	2,638	16.9	93.5	—	1,320	50.0	31.0
May 16/46	1,196	2,656	15.7	94.8	Employment Estimate - 42,500			

REGINA - 56

Situation stable—In 1945, only 17 per cent of Saskatchewan's productive wealth was obtained from manufacturing, the lowest percentage of the three prairie provinces. Similarly in the Regina area there are on the average, three times as many persons engaged in retail and wholesale trade, services, transportation, construction, and the other small non-manufacturing industries as there are in manufacturing. The only notable manufacturing employment is in foodstuffs, petroleum products, and printing and publishing. Farm labour requirements are completely filled. There is a shortage of all types of construction labour. Suitable heavy labourers are in short supply. The number of veterans applying for out-of-work benefits shows a net decline of 105 during the last two weeks. The number of job applicants on the live claims file is under the thousand mark, less than 50 per cent of the mid-winter peak. Of those applicants ineligible for benefits a large percentage are elderly, untrained, or young and inexperienced. Female domestics are in heavy demand but orders for clerical workers are steadily decreasing.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	1,519	2,471	16.1	91.9	41.1	1,117	45.2	41.3
May 2/46	1,124	2,098	19.8	92.2	—	1,108	52.8	49.7
May 16/46	859	1,585	26.9	90.9	Employment Estimate - 28,200			

TRAIL - 54

Situation improving—Labour demand, reflected in registration of vacancies by employers is on the upswing. The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company are hiring many ex-servicemen who have had no previous experience with this firm, and provision is being made to accommodate at least 150 college students (95 per cent ex-service) for summer employment. It is expected that 500 to 600 men will be placed in the next few months if the new agreement between the labour union and the company is ratified by the Regional War Labour Board. The lumber strike has not yet affected this district but the men from two logging outfits have walked out in sympathy, and an uneasy feeling is noticeable in the construction industry, with the possibility of lay-offs. Most of the women on file are unskilled workers, and demand is chiefly for domestic workers. Many women registered as sales clerks are married, and will not accept work at the rate paid. Any male resident in Trail who is not unemployable will be hired for the summer months at least.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets Unpl. over
Mar. 28/46	47	516	57.6	98.8	76.9	44	8.5	4.8
May 2/46	113	537	54.4	92.0	—	34	6.3	4.1
May 16/46	161	433	58.2	88.2	Employment Estimate - 8,000			

GROUP IV

Areas in Which Unemployment is Slight
(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, Less Than 50 are Unemployed)

HALIFAX - 49

Situation stable—Future employment in Halifax is dependent on several factors:—port activity, now at a minimum level; the volume of trade and services, now active because of deferred consumer demand; and activity in the shipbuilding industry. This latter industry indirectly supports a large part of manufacturing employment, and although it is currently active, layoffs have commenced. The labour situation has not continued to improve, as was expected. Layoffs affecting 132 men engaged in shipbuilding, transportation, and water front work, have taken place recently. There is an acute shortage of construction labour and, to a lesser degree, of skilled tradesmen for the construction industry. The peak has been reached in spring fishing and all companies are hampered by a shortage of help. Lack of housing and of domestic workers is expected to hinder the tourist trade. Many of the applicants now on file are unsuitable for the work available. Light factory labourers, truck drivers, clerical workers, and protective workers are still numerous among male applicants. Demand for female workers is high for all occupations.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	1,653	2,432	12.3	97.9	29.4	1,166	47.9	27.3
May 2/46	1,996	2,370	12.9	93.8	—	1,063	44.9	28.1
May 16/46	1,775	2,277	11.6	92.7	Employment Estimate - 46,900			

SASKATOON - 48

Situation improving—Twice as many people in Saskatoon are engaged in the retail and wholesale trade, trade and services, and other non-manufacturing industries as in manufacturing. Intensive study of possible industrial utilization of farm crops has been carried on in this region. The Saskatchewan Co-operative Producers Limited (wheat pool) has now started on a developmental scheme to include the following: a vegetable oil plant (1,000 bushels of flax per day); a flour milling plant for processing all grains; a starch plant (which will also convert starch into glucose); a feed mixing plant (feed for livestock); and grain handling, storage, and warehouse facilities to receive and ship grain, and serve the plants. Seeding is completed and farmhands are now seeking employment as construction labourers. Farmers with combines are showing keen interest in the announcement as to the regulations regarding co-operation with American farmers in harvesting the grain crop. Construction is very active; a project for 618 houses is underway, 59 are completed, and work is progressing on the remainder. Overall demand for male workers is good but there are still many unskilled labourers and truck drivers idle. Female demand is high for domestic workers and low for clerical workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	754	2,392	20.8	88.7	33.8	1,075	44.9	32.1
May 2/46	1,197	1,989	18.4	89.4	—	1,001	50.3	41.0
May 16/46	1,097	1,817	21.4	91.9	Employment Estimate - 38,000			

PETERBOROUGH - 43

Situation improving—At the close of the war, most plants in Peterborough were producing goods which, had only to be diverted from military to civilian channels, and thus no great problems of reconversion arose. At the Canadian General Electric Company plant, the largest employer of manpower in the city, employment is now 136 per cent higher than at July 1, 1939 despite the fact that employment has dropped 700 from the wartime peak. Other factories are gradually increasing production but are hiring few workers as most of them have carried a surplus of men during the change-over to peacetime production, so that when materials became available they would not be held up by lack of experienced workers. Some factory labour is of course required, with preference being given to veterans, but the lack of living accommodation prevents the hiring of skilled help through clearance. Men are urgently required for farm work but few applicants are available. There is also a scarcity of construction labour. The shortage of female workers could be alleviated except for the lack of accommodation. The surplus labour force in Peterborough is largely composed of unskilled light factory labourers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	371	954	4.6	93.6	39.6	473	49.6	39.4
May 2/46	486	924	4.4	89.4	—	470	50.9	41.1
May 16/46	555	914	5.6	89.4	Employment Estimate - 21,500			

TORONTO - 42

Situation improving—Solely on the basis of new factories and factory additions now under construction, future industrial prospects for Toronto appear exceedingly bright. Improvement in employment conditions is shown by the rising number of job openings registered and the accompanying decrease in unplaced applicants. There is a constant demand for highly-skilled workers in almost every industry. Placements have been more frequent of late as employers are now accepting less-qualified workers, in view of the scarcity of fully-trained help. Approximately 30 per cent of all male applicants are in the "white collar" class, the comparatively low salaries offered being the main placement obstacle. A large number of factory workers are unemployed, but it is still difficult to reconcile high-salaried war workers to the lower peace-time rates of pay. The situation regarding female help is so acute that almost any women between the ages of 18 and 48 can obtain employment. Surpluses of clerical workers, salesmen, truck drivers and labourers predominate the male employment pattern. For women workers, vacancies outnumber applicants by approximately 10 to 1, stenographers, typists, domestics, waitresses, sewing machine operators, and unskilled workers being in heavy demand.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	13,485	17,113	7.6	94.2	53.3	8,415	49.2	34.0
May 2/46	17,388	16,116	8.1	93.4	—	8,359	51.9	37.3
May 16/46	18,200	15,816	7.3	92.0	Employment Estimate - 372,200			

KINGSTON - 42

Situation stable—The employment situation in Kingston has not changed markedly since the last reporting date, April 11, but prospects for the summer months are bright. The Canadian Shipbuilding Company is very busy with repairs on the lake boats, and will soon start construction on the new steamer "Kingston". This will mean an addition of approximately three hundred men to its staff. The Aluminum Company of Canada will hire about sixty students for summer employment, and A. Davis and Sons and the Canadian Locomotive Company will also need additional labour. Despite the shortage of building materials, the construction industry is very active; at present there is a scarcity of skilled building tradesmen, although unqualified workers are plentiful. In the male employment field applicants outnumber jobs by approximately two to one, labour supply being concentrated in the clerical, and unskilled labour groups. Demand for female help is chiefly for experienced stenographers, waitresses and domestic servants.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	274	732	25.5	91.3	38.9	233	31.8	27.5
May 2/46	364	780	20.0	94.4	-	295	37.8	32.4
May 16/46	465	746	21.4	90.1	Employment Estimate - 17,700			

BRANTFORD - 34

Situation improving—During the past two months the situation in Brantford has changed from one of a labour surplus to a serious shortage of workers. Increased production in the secondary iron and steel, textile, and construction industries, together with seasonal expansion in the local canneries, is chiefly responsible for this development. At the present time it is very difficult to obtain labour from other than local sources because of the acute shortage of housing accommodation in Brantford. The Massey-Harris Company Limited imported 150 men from Hamilton recently, for its new Brantford plant, but is still short of help. The remaining unplaced applicants, numbering 554 (322 males and 232 females) at May 16 are extremely hard to place, as the majority lack the required training, are over age or physically unfit. Male demand is concentrated in the metal working field, drill press operators, sheet metal workers, moulders, core makers, patternmakers, and unskilled labourers being practically unobtainable. Female clerical workers, domestics, textile workers and unskilled factory workers are in short supply.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	494	759	39.0	97.4	59.8	208	27.4	13.8
May 2/46	607	666	40.8	95.6	-	172	25.8	18.5
May 16/46	640	554	41.9	94.0	Employment Estimate - 16,200			

SAULT STE. MARIE - 34

Situation improving—Labour demand in Sault Ste. Marie is high, work being active in all industries with the exception of the Chromium Mining and Smelting Company, which has laid off many workers. Employment in the Algoma Steel Corporation has expanded approximately 35 per cent since June 1, 1939. The 500 women employed by this firm during the war have been replaced by veterans. There is a good demand for workers in the Michipicoten mine field, and there are no applicants available for the hundreds of jobs open in woods operations. Shortage of materials is retarding the employment of many men in the construction industry. Land transportation is active, the Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railway requiring 100 men as extra gang labour. Of the 903 unfilled vacancies for men 602 are for woodsmen and 243 for unskilled workers. While demand is low in other classifications, idle workers are not numerous. There is virtually no demand for the 263 female applicants.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	846	737	50.6	97.8	65.8	113	15.3	7.6
May 2/46	827	568	50.0	93.5	—	145	25.5	11.4
May 16/46	904	508	52.0	92.9	Employment Estimate - 15,000			

NIAGARA FALLS - 32

Situation stable—The number of unplaced applicants in Niagara Falls dropped by one-third between April 11, and May 16. The remaining unemployed are persons who are hard to place because of age limitations or physical handicaps. The strike which has tied up production at the Herbert Morris Crane and Hoist Company since February 25, was settled on April 30 and operations at this plant are now back to normal. In the construction industry, work on a 100-house project of Wartime Housing Limited, coupled with an unprecedented boom in residential building, has resulted in an acute shortage of all types of construction workers. The coal strike has had an adverse effect on employment in the New York Central Railroad Company, where activity in most departments is temporarily at a standstill. In the male labour field, demand is heavy for such skilled workers as bricklayers, carpenters, mechanics, millwrights, and stationary engineers, while labour supply consists largely of clerical, sales, and unskilled workers. Women workers most urgently required are waitresses, kitchen help, and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	281	906	25.4	98.6	54.5	276	30.5	22.5
May 2/46	358	687	24.6	90.2	—	222	32.3	26.3
May 16/46	334	533	25.7	92.9	Employment Estimate - 16,500			

LONDON - 30

Situation improving—Labour demand in this city continues to increase and the supply of workers is becoming correspondingly smaller. The volume of local foundry production now almost equals peak war output, and would increase still further if qualified workers could be obtained. Latterly, labour demand has been heavy in the textile, paper, and food industries, but the low wages offered are not attractive to prospective employees. Building activity is showing very substantial gains over 1945, but it is difficult to see how the extensive program now underway can be completed this season, in view of the existing shortages of labour and material. Nearly 50 per cent of the total unemployed are in the light labour class, and an additional 25 per cent are clerical and sales workers, of whom very few are qualified to meet the requirements of the small number of current vacancies. Among male workers, construction workers, skilled and semi-skilled metal workers, mechanics, truck drivers, and heavy labourers are in heavy demand. Job opportunities for female clerical, domestic and unskilled workers are numerous, with supply practically non-existent.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 days
Mar. 28/46	1,425	1,341	15.3	91.5	46.4	523	39.0	21.6
May 2/46	2,391	1,109	14.9	80.2	-	462	41.7	25.3
May 16/46	2,589	889	16.8	75.9	Employment Estimate - 29,900			

SHERBROOKE - 24

Situation improving—Sherbrooke is essentially a textile city with the exception of the Ingersoll-Rand Company Limited, and several other small companies. The end of the war saw the textile industry depleted of labour, and while consumer demand now guarantees expanded employment, workers are difficult to obtain. Canadian Ingersoll-Rand, producing heavy machinery, employed approximately 1,000 persons as at March 1, two and one half times pre-war strength, and a 25 per cent reduction from the wartime peak. It is anticipated that employment will remain stable at about 1,000. Agricultural activity has been very slack because of excessive amounts of rain. Logging activity is slight at present; many men have, however, been transferred to the United States on a quota basis. The prevailing shortage of materials prevents a larger demand for construction workers, although at present carpenters and painters are scarce. One hundred employees in the carding and spinning departments of Paton Manufacturing Woollen Mills Company have gone on strike and these idle workers will cause the gradual lay off of approximately 450 employees as the stock of manufactured yarn becomes depleted.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	307	816	11.3	96.3	46.3	293	35.9	26.7
May 2/46	495	545	15.2	89.4	-	190	34.9	20.4
May 16/46	448	456	15.8	92.8	Employment Estimate - 19,000			

KITCHENER - 5

Situation stable—Kitchener's strong industrial position is due mainly to the nature and diversification of its industries, and to its location in a prosperous agricultural district. Such industries as rubber, food-stuffs, furniture, leather, and iron products manufacturing, experienced only slight difficulty in plant reconversion and to date their principal trouble has been the retarding of production through lack of sufficient help. There is an urgent demand for single farm workers on mixed and dairy farms. Most urgent demand for men is for the tannery, rubber, furniture, foodstuffs, and construction industries. Female labour demand is largest for the textile, rubber, foodstuffs, and button industries. A constant need for female clerical and domestic workers exists. - Housing conditions prevent an influx of labour into this city, and in some cases the nature of the work tends to discourage applicants.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Mar. 28/46	1,463	183	8.7	79.2	24.6	69	37.7	6.6
May 2/46	1,755	163	11.0	78.5	—	68	41.7	6.1
May 16/46	1,766	195	9.7	76.9	Employment Estimate - 35,500			

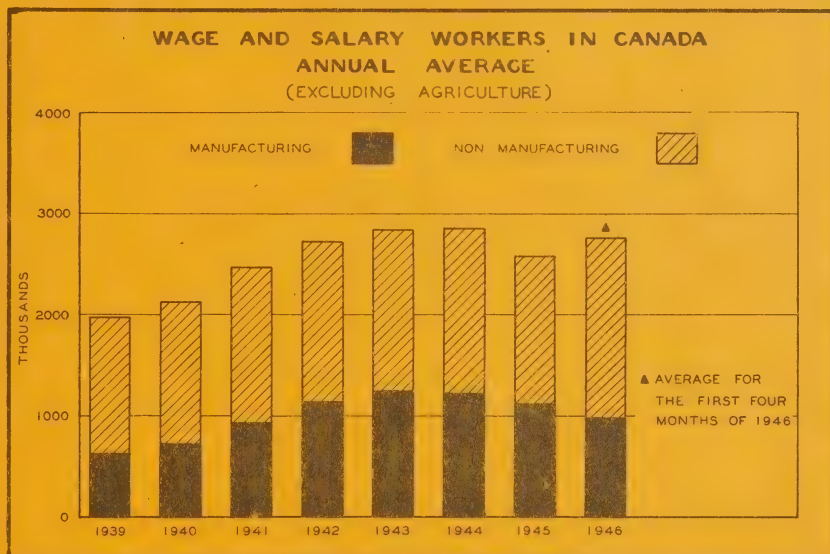
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CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

JUNE, 1946



RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH
DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

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AS WE GO TO PRESS

Unemployment in Canada, gauged by the number of unplaced applicants, maintained its basic downhill trend during June, retreating to 175,000 workers at July 11, 1946. A decline of 31,000 was evident during June, in comparison with the drop of 34,000 throughout May. However, the reduction during the first two weeks of July was only about 4,000. This emphatic modification of the downward trend indicates the widespread effects of current labour unrest. At the moment, strikes are cutting into production and tending to obscure the normal seasonal upswing of industrial activity. The June unemployment decline was pertinent chiefly to male workers, a trend consistent with past months. The proportion of female unplaced applicants crept up 2 per cent during June.

Unfilled vacancies in Canada totalled 117,000 at July 11, 1946, illustrating a rise of approximately 3,000 from May 30, 1946. At the moment, many job vacancies have been open for some time; a persistent core of unfilled jobs is developing. (See Section 3, Operations of the National Employment Service). New jobs appearing on the market are being filled at top speed. From June 20 to July 11, total unfilled vacancies remained unchanged.

Unplaced ex-servicemen numbered about 61,000 at the end of June, 1946, as compared with 72,000 persons at the close of May. The proportion of the total unemployed who are ex-servicemen was 34 per cent at the end of June, unchanged from the percentage figure of the end of the previous month. Veterans who have been out of work 15 days or more constitute 72 per cent of all jobless ex-servicemen, a slight drop from the proportion during the previous month of 73 per cent.

Discharges of service personnel numbered 23,000 for June, a sharp drop from the 38,000 total for May. Since V-J day then, total discharges as at June 27 equal 619,000 persons. Forecasts for July and August score discharges at 15,000 and 14,000 respectively.

A classification of Canadian labour market areas as at June 27, 1946, features a tapering off of the number of areas which fall in either Acute or Serious Unemployment categories. A drop from four to two areas falling in the Acute Unemployment Group, which tallies with the unemployment situation of the "Mid-Thirties," took place in the interval between May 16, and June 27. A decline from seven to six areas falling in the Serious Unemployment Category, which corresponds to the labour market situation in 1939, occurred in this same period of time. The relative unemployment status of Collingwood, Fort Erie and Oshawa changed from Acute to Serious during the month ending June 27. On the other hand, Valleyfield receded from the Serious to the Acute Unemployment Category in the same interval.

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PART I

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Section I--DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

The steady decline in unemployment, the upsurge of seasonal activity, and the turbulent state of labour-management relations, are the outstanding features of the current employment picture. Expansion in many industries is still deterred by material and key labour shortages, as well as by the effects of domestic strike action. Nevertheless, current demand for labour, as shown by unfilled vacancies, is rising rapidly and now approximates the level of March, 1945. At June 27, there were 120,800 unfilled vacancies registered with the National Employment Service. The absorptive capacity of the labour market is demonstrated by the fact that although 38,500 service personnel re-entered civilian life during May, total unemployment declined by 32,000 in the same period, to stand at 178,900 at June 27. The thousands of students released from secondary schools and universities at this time, have also been assimilated without difficulty.

Unemployment Decline More Than Seasonal

The industrial expansion now occurring throughout the country is not entirely seasonal in character. To the seasonal influence must be added the pressure of deferred development projects and the postponed demands which accumulated in many industries during the war years. The release of manpower has enabled services, trade and communication to expand even more than is seasonally normal. In the mining industry, production records do not indicate the vast amount of exploration and development work which is now being undertaken and which should provide increasing employment opportunities of the long run nature. Employment gains are reported in this industry despite the shortage of skilled labour, lack of housing accommodation, and labour unrest. Problems of key labour and material shortages beset the construction industry, which is nevertheless showing substantial advances in residential, commercial and industrial projects.

In agriculture, seasonal expansion plus the pressure of world food demand, has created an acute labour situation, which is complicated by a general reluctance on the part of unemployed persons to accept farm work. The recent directive, cutting off unemployment insurance benefits for workers with previous agricultural experience who refuse suitable employment, is an attempt to meet this difficulty.

The encouraging decline in total unemployment is largely the result of this upswing in general activity which is continuing despite frictions inherent in wage differentials between industries and areas and in the geographical disequilibrium of labour demand and supply.

Basic Maritime Need--Stimulation of Primary Industries

The post war industrial problem in the Maritimes is more than one involving reconversion. Since the Maritime provinces received very little of the 800 millions spent by the Dominion Government on war production facilities, they have no substantial problem of developing new peacetime products and markets for war created industrial capacity.

The problem is rather one of reducing production costs and increasing variety of output in order to put the Maritime economy on a more stable basis and enable the industrial sector to absorb permanently a larger percentage of the total labour force. The current situation emphasizes the validity of this conclusion--the present manpower surplus, the heaviest in Canada in relation to the regional labour force, is not merely a reconversion phenomena. To a large extent it indicates a return to pre-war conditions when chronic unemployment was prevalent in the Maritimes, particularly in the Cape Breton area.

The current situation in agriculture is more favourable. The concentration of war industry in the main industrial centres of the region drained off the stagnant surplus of rural population. Before the war, agriculture was an industry greatly over-manned in comparison to its output. Consequently, the loss of labour raised farm incomes by relieving the pressure of surplus farm labour. Wage standards improved as competition with other industries for labour became severe. In the long run, however, profitable agriculture in the Maritimes will depend upon a high level of general industrial activity which will prevent overcrowding of farms by surplus labour, and provide a healthy domestic market.

Lumber Industry on the Upswing

The lumber industry had been in a depressed condition before the war. A decline in the use of wood for buildings, competition with Pacific coast companies, and the adverse effect of American tariffs were the chief contributing factors. Wartime expansion improved wage standards and left the industry in a much healthier state. Surplus labour was removed and production facilities improved. The lumber industry, particularly in New Brunswick, is currently in a position to be a "reception" industry for workers stranded by the collapse of war employment. Future prospects are, however, more uncertain.

The Maritimes largely depend on the American and overseas markets since trade with the of Canada is hindered by geographical disadvantages. Tariff policies vitally affect the prosperity of the region, often representing a serious handicap in Maritime trade with Great Britain, the United States, the West Indies and Latin America. Adjustment of tariff policies is continually being sought by representations to Ottawa.

The high-cost coal and steel industry of the Cape Breton area in itself presents a problem, since it is a marginal industry under normal conditions. Lack of capital for investment has been a large obstacle to efficient development. Government subsidization has consequently been necessary. Marginal operation has, in turn, led to troubled labour relations which have plagued the industry for many years.

Economic Planning Commences in Nova Scotia

The solution to the economic difficulty of the Maritime provinces lies in placing the basic industries--fishing, forestry and agriculture, on a firmer footing. Secondary stimulation of manufacturing industries would follow automatically. The shortage of capital is the chief stumbling block. It has held back industrial expansion in the region for many years. In Nova Scotia, a million dollar research foundation has recently been established to determine what resources should be developed, what new industries established, and where and what markets are available. The foundation, directed by an economist and a scientist, will encourage new economic operations to develop Nova Scotia's potentialities more fully. This type of organization is vital to a program of sound development.

Current Situation in the Maritimes

In the Maritime region there were 24,900 unplaced applicants and 7,300 unfilled vacancies at June 27, as compared with 28,100 applicants and 7,300 vacancies at May 30. Logging and sawmill operations are on a greater scale this year than they have been for many years past. The movement of 500 men from the depressed Cape Breton area to the State of Maine for bush work has been accomplished. All mines are working steadily but no increase in production has been recorded. About 250 skilled miners are still required, 170 for the Cape Breton area and 80 for the Minto district. Seeding operations now have been completed but lack of rain is retarding the crop growth. Farm labour demand has slackened markedly. Farmers are reluctant to list their haying and harvesting requirements far in advance. Shortages of materials continue to hamper manufacturing firms. Shipbuilding activity has decreased in the larger yards. Building construction is booming throughout the region, despite supply shortages and the lack of skilled carpenters, bricklayers and plasterers.

In the Quebec region, there were 49,400 unplaced applicants and 36,400 unfilled vacancies at June 27, as compared with 64,200 applicants and 37,800 vacancies at May 30. Woods operations are progressing satisfactorily in some areas but no great activity is expected for about six weeks. The farm labour measure cancelling unemployment benefits for workers with previous agricultural experience, is producing encouraging results. Farm labour is also being recruited for work on American farms. The higher wages offered are a strong incentive to workers who have rejected similar jobs on Quebec farms. Strike gloom still darkens the industrial scene. Lake shipping activity has again commenced but labour unrest is spreading in the textile, rubber, electrical and steel industries. The White Motor Company, beginning operations at a new Montreal plant, has placed initial orders for 1,000 workers. Foundries are still in need of skilled moulders, but foundry labour remains in short supply. A \$5,000,000 chemical plant to be established at Cap de la Madeleine will make Canada self-sufficient in the supply of titanium pigment, a raw material used in the paint, textile and other industries. A new textile plant is being erected at St. Jerome, which will provide work for three hundred or four hundred workers. The shortage of skilled construction workers is growing more acute as commercial, residential and industrial projects steadily increase in number.

Growing Labour Demand in Ontario

In the Ontario region, there were 47,100 unplaced applicants and 48,900 unfilled vacancies at June 27, as compared with 55,900 applicants and 44,800 vacancies at May 30. Approximately 3,500 woodsmen are required for pulpwood cutting in the Timmins area, and over 1,000 are needed in the Sudbury district. Mining companies are having difficulty in obtaining experienced help, particularly drillers. Flood conditions in Kent and Essex counties have caused considerable damage to crops. This has resulted in an increased demand for farm labour to make up for the delay in operations and to repair damages. Orders for prisoner-of-war labour are heavy. It is expected that a total of 2,500 harvesters will be brought in from the western provinces.

Strikes are holding up production in the automobile, brass and rubber industries. Shortages of heavy labour for foundry and forge persist and the movement of this labour to outdoor work continues. A farm implement firm at Brantford, and McKinnon Industries Ltd. at St. Catharines, are securing accommodation for foundry labour and other employees through special housing projects. The heavy demand for workers continues in the textile, furniture and leather goods industries. A substantial number of construction projects are being postponed

because of the scarcity of building materials and experienced construction tradesmen. Carpenters, bricklayers and painters are in heaviest demand.

Prairie Region Labour Needs Concentrated in Logging and Mining

In the Prairie region, there were 30,400 unplaced applicants and 19,100 unfilled vacancies at June 27, as compared with 34,500 applicants and 17,400 vacancies at May 30. At least 3,000 men will be required before November in the logging industry of the Port Arthur area. Sawlog and pulpwood operations continue in the Fort William and Fort Frances districts. Labour demand is greatly in excess of supply. The recent American coal strike has stimulated demand for Alberta coal; miners are urgently needed in all areas. Gold mines in the Port Arthur area are very active but lack of housing accommodation continues to hamper placements. The supply of farm labour is adequate to meet demand throughout the region. There has been no difficulty in recruiting workers for excursions to farms in Ontario and British Columbia, for haying and harvesting. The packing plant and flour milling industries are not operating actively at this period. Building material firms are very active, although sash and door factories have suffered severe set-backs from material shortages as a result of the British Columbia lumber strike. Calgary iron manufacturing firms are being affected at present by the spreading foundry workers' strike. Shortage of materials is retarding construction activity. In some areas, lay-offs of building tradesmen are occurring, and nowhere throughout the region is demand substantial in this industry.

Industry Marks Time in Pacific Area during Crippling Strikes

In the Pacific region, there were 27,100 unplaced applicants and 9,100 unfilled vacancies at June 27, as compared with 28,100 applicants and 8,000 vacancies at May 30. The majority of logging camps are re-opening after the 36 day dispute over wages, hours and union security. Some sawmills, however, will delay re-opening until log reserves are back to normal. The scarcity of coal miners still prevails. Labour unrest in the gold mining industry is the cause of its high rate of labour turnover. Expansion is taking place in base metal mines at Trail and Kimberley. The foundry strike is still hampering production in the metal industries. There is no demand for labour in the shipbuilding industry because of material shortages resulting from the foundry and lumber strikes. The current settlement of the dispute should serve to ease the situation in the near future. Lay-offs are taking place in the shipbuilding industry at Victoria because of a scarcity of work. It is expected that the construction industry will resume full activity within a few weeks, as adequate supplies of lumber again become available. Skilled carpenters are needed in Vancouver. The demand for qualified painters in Victoria cannot be met adequately.

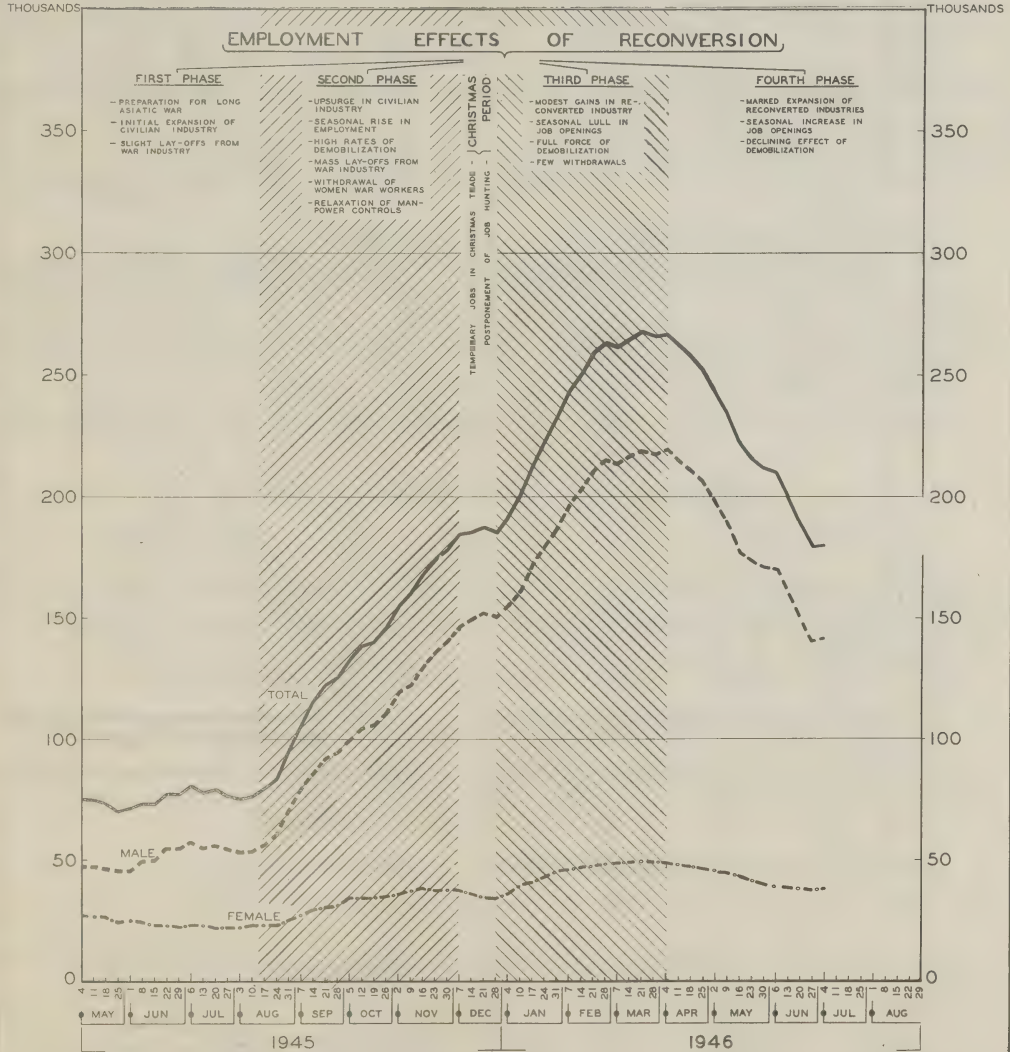
Unemployment on the Downgrade

The previous downward trend in unplaced applicants continued in June as the seasonal upswing in agriculture, construction and logging more than offset the adverse effects of current stormy labour relations. Unemployment totalled 178,904 at June 27, as compared with 210,751 at May 30. The decline during June was 31,847, slightly less than the drop of 32,315 recorded in May. Improvement is almost entirely concentrated in the male labour field. Unplaced male applicants numbered 141,137 at June 27, as compared with 170,515 at May 30—a drop of 29,387. Female applicants declined 2,469 during the month to stand at 37,767 at June 27. The proportion of unreferred applicants (workers registered as unplaced who have not yet been referred to jobs) to all unplaced applicants was 92.9 per cent at June 27, a drop of 1.0 points since May 30.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

AS MEASURED BY THE NUMBER OF
UNPLACED APPLICANTS

REPORTING TO THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

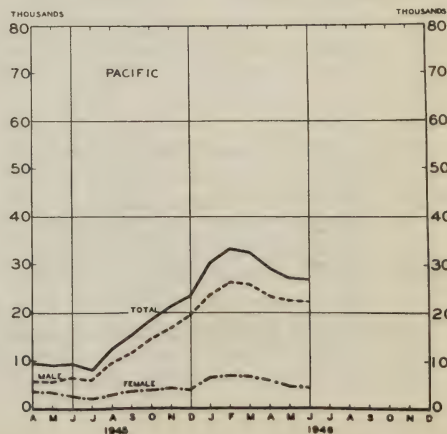
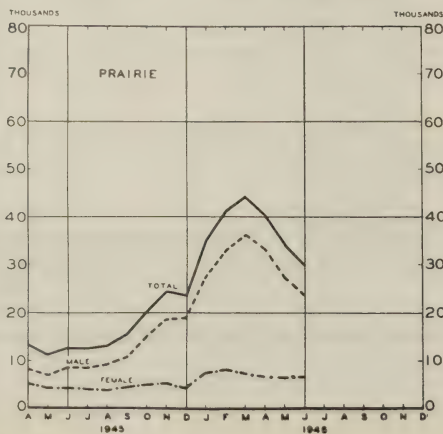
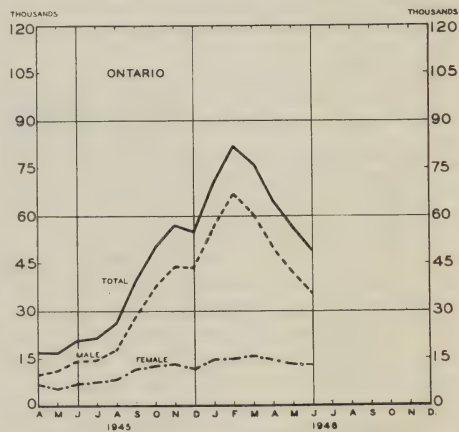
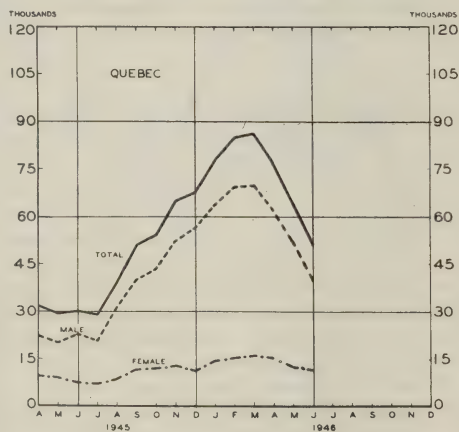
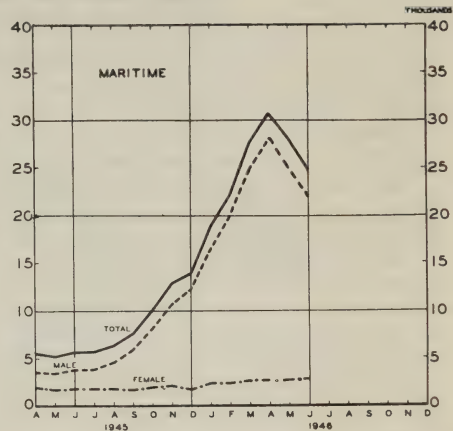
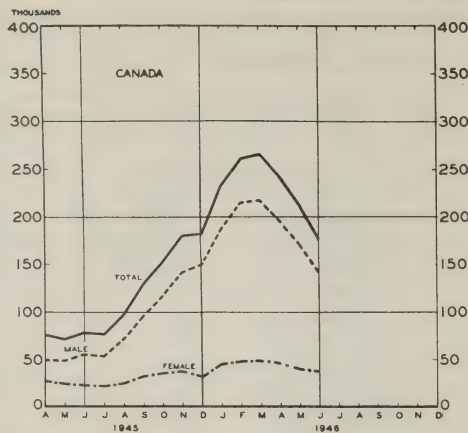


REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

AS MEASURED BY THE NUMBER OF

UNPLACED APPLICANTS

REPORTING TO THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



Three Quarters of Unemployed Covered by Insurance

Workers signing the live unemployment register during the last week of May totalled 98,810, in comparison with 123,950 in the same period of April. Thus, 55.2 per cent of the unemployed are claiming the protection of unemployment insurance, although not all of them will qualify for benefits. Male live claims declined from 94,979 to 74,130 during May, and female claims dropped from 28,971 to 24,680. The lag of over a month between signing of the live claims register and payment of benefits, partially accounts for this seeming discrepancy. The marked decline in unemployment and the fact that benefits are being exhausted in many cases, also explain the relatively low figure of live claims. During May, a total of 127,866 persons received benefit payments amounting to \$5,221,870 as compared with 158,168 persons who were paid \$7,011,579 during April. Of the 8,959 claims disallowed in May, 4,615 were because of insufficient contributions while in insurable employment, and 2,580 for leaving employment without just cause. Veterans receiving out-of-work benefits at the end of May totalled 40,699. Of the total unemployed, 78.0 per cent were, therefore, covered by some form of protection.

The regional burden of unemployment in relation to the non-agricultural labour force is heaviest in the Maritime and Pacific regions, which were not highly-industrialized prior to the war. The burden is lightest in Ontario and Quebec, where there has been a return to pre-war civilian manufacturing. Since unemployment is concentrated in urban areas, its incidence is based on the non-agricultural, rather than the total, labour force. Current ratios are based upon figures of the D.B.S. Labour Force Survey of February, but the upward distortion resulting from this time gap will affect the ratios only slightly.

Table I—Unemployment as a Percentage of the
Non-Agricultural Labour Force by Region

(Source: Labour Force Survey, D.B.S.; Labour Demand and Supply,
Research and Statistics Branch)

Region	November 17, 1945			February 23, 1946			June 27, 1946	
	Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Unpl. Apps.	%
Maritimes	303,000	12,000	4.0	310,000	22,000	7.1	24,900	8.0
Quebec	1,072,000	60,000	5.6	1,011,000	85,000	8.4	49,400	4.9
Ontario	1,300,000	54,000	4.2	1,282,000	80,000	6.2	47,100	3.7
Prairies	462,000	24,000	5.2	488,000	40,000	8.2	30,400	6.2
Pacific	322,000	19,000	5.9	344,000	33,000	9.6	27,100	7.9
Canada	3,459,000	169,000	4.9	3,435,000	260,000	7.6	178,900	5.2

Incomplete Reporting of Job Openings Persists

It is becoming increasingly apparent that the figure of unfilled vacancies is not truly representative of the total number of job opportunities available throughout the country. Proficiencies in the number of engagements without referral. The number of such engagements indicates the number of jobs filled outside the National Employment Service. In addition, it should be noted that even this latter figure does not measure all engagements without referral since there is only a moral obligation of the employer to report those engagements.

Employers are not listing labour demands for several reasons. Pessimism is wide-spread because of the scarcity of suitable skills, and because of the deliberate policy of many unemployed workers to draw unemployment insurance benefits rather than to accept suitable employment. Housing shortages in areas where local labour supply is inadequate makes the in-migration of workers impracticable and further discourages employers from listing labour requirements. In those industries which had low labour priorities during the war, antipathy toward the National Employment Service has carried over from the war period when they were deprived of men.

The mining industry presents a case in point. In the Rouyn and Val d'Or areas, total vacancies listed with the National Employment Office numbered 565 at May 16. However, a survey conducted in the same period disclosed that actual requirements were 3,433, exclusive of an additional 1,400 jobs available in prospecting, diamond drilling and field services. For each job vacancy actually listed in these areas, there are evidently 17 vacancies which are not reflected in employment service statistics.

The unfilled vacancies registered with the National Employment Service throughout Canada at June 27 totalled 120,819. This represents a gain of 5,542 during June, as compared with a rise of 2,986 during May. Jobs for male workers were 72,695 and for females, 48,124. The shortage of women workers is growing more acute as vacancies now outnumber applicants by 10,357.

Table II--Regional Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants
as at June 27, 1946

(Source: Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies		Unplaced Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Maritimos	7,263	6.0	24,873	13.9
Quebec	36,403	30.1	49,436	27.6
Ontario	48,931	40.5	47,110	26.3
Prairie	19,081	15.8	30,365	17.0
Pacific	9,141	7.6	27,120	15.2
Canada	120,819	100.0	178,904	100.0

Vacancies Exceed Applicants in Ontario

Regionally, the ratio of unfilled vacancies to unemployed is highly favourable to Ontario, where total vacancies now outnumber total applicants. Ontario accounts for 40.5 per cent of all vacancies and only 26.3 per cent of the unemployed. The Maritime and Pacific regions are in the worst position, each having a small proportion of vacancies and a large proportion of applicants.

Table III—Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants by Occupation
as at June 20, 1946

(Source: Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch)

	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Canada	68,024	48,716	116,740	150,435	36,457	186,892
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service .	9,876	24,409	34,285	33,828	22,463	56,291
Skilled and semi- skilled	31,512	10,167	41,679	51,162	7,200	58,362
Unskilled (a)	26,636	14,140	40,776	65,445	8,794	74,239

(a) Includes farm hands and fishermen

Occupationally, the distribution of total unfilled vacancies is fairly even. The majority of job openings continue to be for skilled and semi-skilled male workers, followed by unskilled male workers, and female workers in the professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service classifications. The unemployed, however, are concentrated in the unskilled classification, in which men predominate. A great many ex-servicemen had no job-training or experience before the war, a fact which partly accounts for the heavy weight of the unskilled male applicant group.

Industrial Employment Shows Only Slight Changes

Employment conditions remained relatively stable during the month of April. Workers in recorded employment in the nine leading industries totalled 1,802,960 at May 1, representing an increase of 3,176 during April. The index of industrial employment advanced only 0.3 per cent to stand at 168.0; the normal seasonal expansion is 2.0 per cent. The May 1 employment level is higher than the 165.2 recorded at May 1, 1942, but below the 173.2 registered last year. For the second successive month considerable expansion occurred in manufacturing employment, although it was less than the normal seasonal increase. The durable goods sector of manufacturing showed the greatest advance. A marked improvement in employment was recorded in iron and steel plants, which reported the addition of 2,859 workers. Substantial gains were also registered in animal products, lumber, pulp and paper and electrical apparatus manufacturing, while increases on a smaller scale were shown in the vegetable products, printing and publishing, and beverage groups. Lay-offs occurred in rubber, textile, tobacco, and chemical factories. Of the non-manufacturing industries, construction recorded the greatest advance, employment rising by 11,810 men. Transportation and trade also expanded. Logging employment slumped seasonally; 22,887 fewer persons were employed during April than in the previous month.

All provinces except Quebec and New Brunswick recorded gains in employment. Greatest advances were in Ontario, 5,342, and in British Columbia, 2,550; a decline of 6,941 occurred in Quebec, chiefly because of the slackening in logging activity.

The decline in female employment continued during April. There were 425,508 women employed at May 1, forming 23.6 per cent of total recorded employment.

Although male workers increased by 4,217 during the month, a reduction of 1,041 took place among women workers. The variation in the trends of recorded employment for men and women resulted largely from seasonal causes, as the industries now expanding are those which use predominantly male labour.

Payrolls and Earnings up Slightly

An aggregate payroll of \$58,500,160 was recorded during the last week of March. The index of aggregate payrolls advanced 1.7 during March to reach 139.3 at April 1, reflecting the increase in employment registered during that period. Pronounced expansion in the relatively high pay iron and steel industry largely accounts for the improvement. Per capita weekly earnings slightly from \$32.53 at March 1, to \$32.59 at April 1. The gains in manufacturing offset losses in all other industrial groups. Weekly earnings are now higher than both the April 1, 1944 level of \$32.37 and the April 1, 1945 figure of \$32.06.

Increase Seen in Average Weekly Hours

Average weekly hours worked in manufacturing industries were 44.4 at April 1. An increase over the previous month occurred in both the durable and non-durable goods sections. In the heavy manufacturing industries, the gain took place largely in the iron, steel and electrical apparatus divisions, while in the light manufacturing industries, the greatest advances were in food, pulp and paper and paper products. Average hourly earnings in manufacturing in the week of April 1, were 68.4 cents, as compared with 67.9 cents in the week of March 1, and 70.4 cents in the corresponding week last year. The April 1 figure was the highest recorded in the past seven months; the improvement is attributable to expanding employment in the more highly-paid durable goods industries as reconversion progresses.

Nationwide Industrial Unrest Hits Production

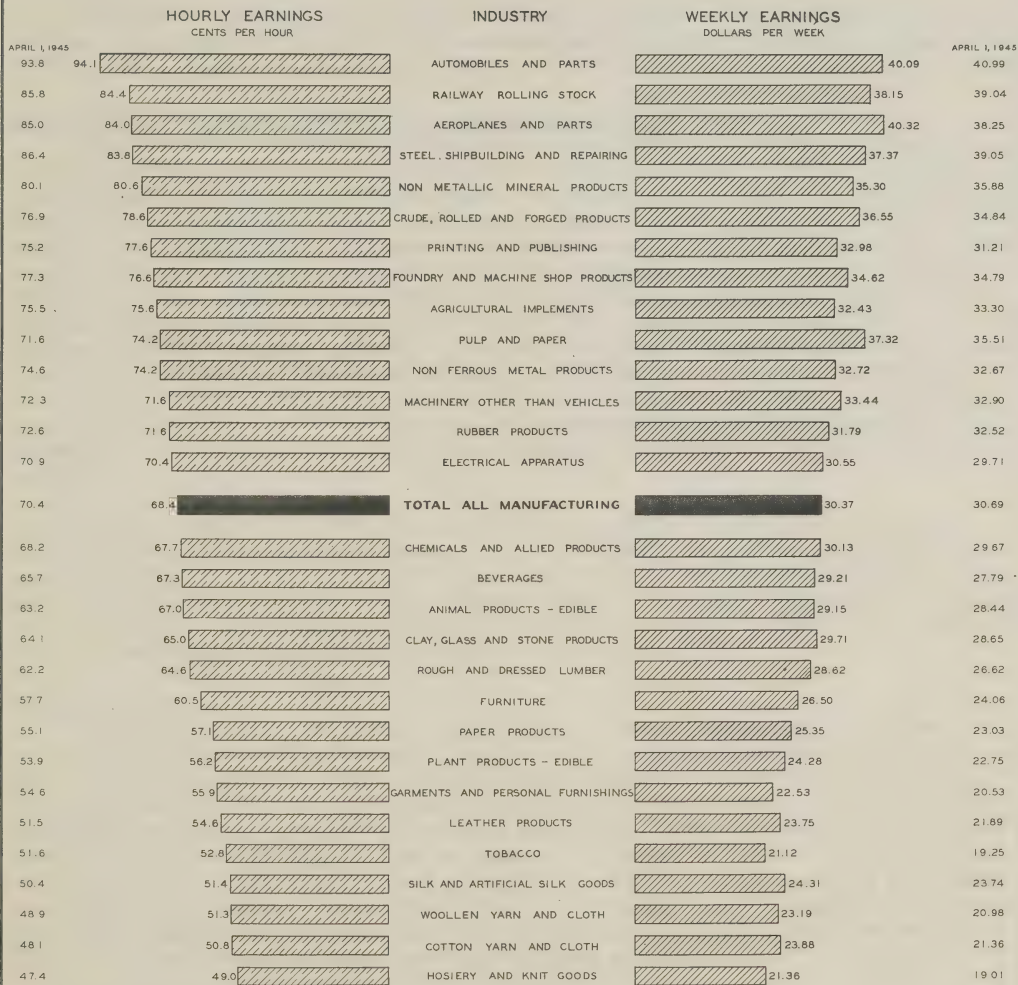
Industrial unrest dominated the labour scene during May. Strikes in existence during May totalled 35, eleven more than in the previous month, while workers involved numbered 47,730 as compared with only 6,907 in April. Man-working days lost through strike action reached the staggering sum of 564,925, a phenomenal increase over the 47,116 lost during April. The 37,000 British Columbia woodworkers out on strike accounted for 500,000 of the man-working days lost during May.

The strike situation became even more grave during June as work stoppages continued in the logging, shipping, foundry and printing industries. New strikes broke out in the textiles and automotive fields, involving 4,000 textile workers in Montreal and Valleyfield, and 4,000 automobile workers at the Chrysler plants in Windsor and Chatham. With the settlement of the B.C. lumber and the Great Lakes shipping strikes, towards the end of June, 40,000 men returned to work. At the same time however, failure in current wage negotiations in the steel, farm tool, motor, rubber and electrical industries would mean an increase of 100,000 in the number of striking workers. Wage increases and the 40-hour week are the chief demands.

In the event of the collapse of present individual negotiation, a policy of co-ordinated strike action is planned, whereby Canadian Congress of Labour unions will all strike simultaneously. To prevent the possible paralysis of production by further work stoppages, a new basis for labour-management agreement has been provided by the recent government policy amending the wages order. Discretionary powers in wage adjustment are henceforth granted to regional and national labour boards. This represents a major step towards wage de-control, and makes possible

HOURLY AND WEEKLY EARNINGS

29 MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES APRIL 1, 1946



the emergence of a new wage pattern.

Today the realm of training constitutes one of the greatest challenges to effective labour-management co-operation. There must be a new approach to apprenticeship by both employers and workers and a new, broad formula for higher training wages. Urgent needs are a vastly increased trainee enrollment, and intensified training methods which will cut the training period to months instead of years.

The possibility of a solution of this and other current problems depends on the development of a spirit of co-operation necessary to bridge the gap between labour and management and to halt the growth of a bitter, uncompromising attitude.

Industrial Production Shows Slight Recession-Month of March

The index of industrial production receded, under seasonal influences, to stand at 197.9 at April 1, as compared with 199.0 at March 1 and 252.2 a year ago. A downward trend has been evident since the beginning of 1944 but growing resistance to further decline is now indicated. Chief losses during March occurred in mineral and manufacturing production. Copper production dropped to 32.3 million pounds and silver output declined markedly, although gold receipts increased to 246,832 ounces. The iron and steel industry receded further, but despite the collapse of war demand, the recession was less than that resulting from the normal seasonal decline at this period. Operations in the meat-packing industry dropped from 148.4 to 141.8. The index of construction activity declined from 425.4 to 423.1, but is still more than double the level of April 1, 1945. The intense demand for housing and other construction projects is clearly reflected by the tremendous increase in the number of building permits issued in the past few months.

The external trade of Canada with the exception of gold, was valued at \$341,028,000 during March as compared with \$319,922,000 in the preceding month, and \$451,938,000 in March of last year. The decline in export shipments of war materials accounts for the difference as compared with the 1945 level. The index of exports fell from 212.7 at March 1, to 206.6 at April 1, while the index of imports rose from 167.4 to 186.3 in the same period.

Month of April

Preliminary figures at May 1, indicate a marked falling-off in productive operations during April, American strikes being largely responsible. An increase was recorded in mineral production and silver shipments rose sharply. The meat-packing industry contracted further and flour milling operations also slackened. Newsprint production reached a new peak of 359,943 tons as compared with 337,862 tons at April 1, and 264,464 tons a year ago. Output of steel ingots advanced to 251,697 tons from 239,636 tons at April 1. Activity increased in secondary iron and steel plants. Production of motor vehicles rose to 20,022 units during April from 16,830 in the preceding month, as Oshawa plants again resumed operations. On the other hand construction declined markedly.

Cost of Living Index Rises Slightly

The cost-of-living index registered a further advance at May 1, to stand at 122.0 as compared with 120.8 at April 1. Increases occurred in clothing and home furnishing and in food, as butter, fresh pork, lard and fruit and vegetable prices rose. Rents advanced slightly, while fuel and light remained unchanged.

Industrial production is still above the level reached in any former peacetime period, although it now is concerned with non-war goods only. Two stages of reconversion remain--the use of increased productivity to overtake deferred demand and thus close the demand-supply gap; and finally, the stabilization of economic activity and employment on a more long run basis. To maintain a high level of income and employment, Canadian industries must sell in foreign markets in competition with countries which by then will be rehabilitated industrially. The spur of large foreign loans will be absent. Only by increased efficiency and productivity will our export industries be able to maintain their current advantage in world trade.

DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

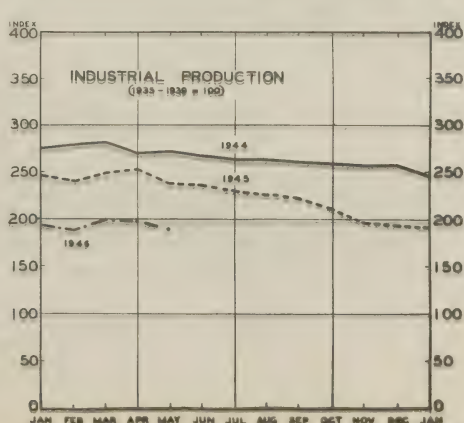
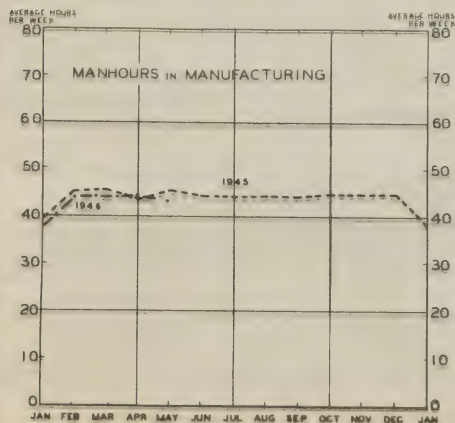
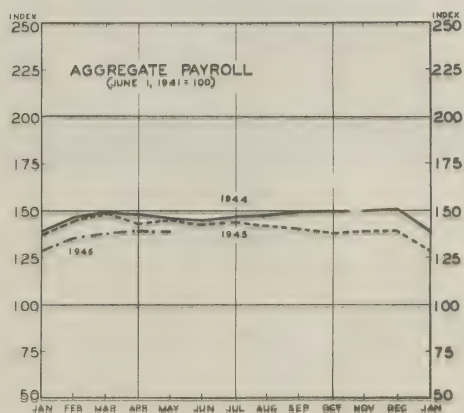
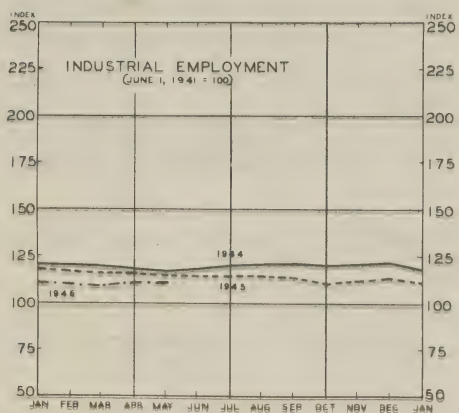
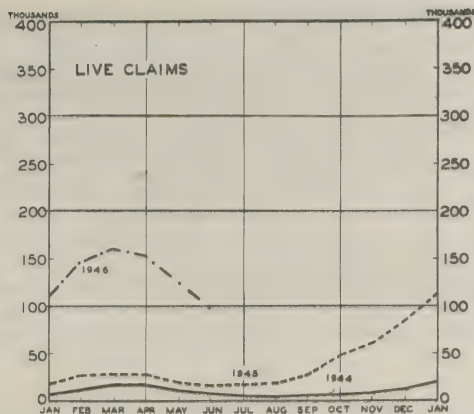
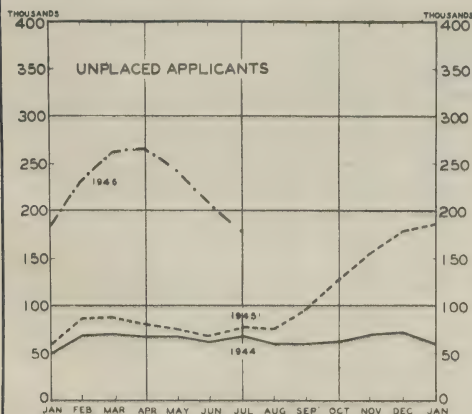


Table IV—Dominant Features of the Canadian Labour Market

Note.—All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Features	May 1939	May 1940	May 1941	May 1942	May 1943	May 1944	May 1945	Apr. 1946	May 1946
Employment (a) -									
Index (Av.1926 - 100)	106.2	114.2	144.1	165.2	175.5	175.6	173.2	167.7	168.0
(June 1, 1941 - 100)	—	—	—	109.3	116.1	116.1	114.8	111.1	111.3
Number (thousands)	1,140	1,226	1,546	1,773	1,883	1,885	1,859	1,800	1,803
Female (thousands)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	426	426
Unemployment (b) -									
Total (thousands)	—	—	—	—	—	68.9	76.0	266.4	242.4
Male (thousands)	—	—	—	—	—	43.5	49.2	217.5	196.8
Female (thousands)	—	—	—	—	—	25.4	26.8	48.9	45.6
Live Claims									
Total (thousands)	—	—	—	—	—	12.0	19.2	154.8	124.0
Male (thousands)	—	—	—	—	—	9.5	12.9	122.5	95.0
Female (thousands)	—	—	—	—	—	2.5	6.3	32.3	29.0
Earnings (a)									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941 - 100) ..	—	—	—	123.2	138.5	145.2	144.8	139.5	138.0
Per capita weekly earnings.	—	—	—	28.65	30.60	32.27	32.58	32.56	32.17
Cost of Living (c) -									
(Av.1935-39 - 100)...	—	104.9	109.4	116.1	118.1	119.2	119.0	120.8	122.0
Man-hours and hourly									
earnings (a) -									
Average hours per week	—	—	—	—	—	—	45.5	44.4	43.0
Average hourly earnings ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	70.5	68.4	68.9
Strikes and lockouts (b)									
Number	13	23	34	32	40	25	15	24	35
Workers involved									
(thousands)	3.7	8.6	6.0	6.5	15.3	22.8	3.3	6.9	47.7
Man-working days lost									
(thousands)	16.7	51.1	22.4	17.8	47.2	126.4	6.7	47.1	564.9
Industrial Production (d) -									
(Av.1935-39 - 100) ..	105.4	125.9	162.7	217.3	267.8	272.3	238.0	197.9	189.6

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

Section 2:--WOMEN WORKERS IN THE RECONVERSION

In alignment with the secular trend in all advanced industrial countries, the experience in Canada has been for women to make up an ever increasing proportion of the labour force. With changing social custom, political and legal emancipation and economic necessity, the office and mill have become as important as the kitchen and nursery in the life of Canadian womanhood.

The proportion of women gainfully occupied has increased from 13 per cent in 1911 to 17 per cent in 1939 and 21 per cent in 1946. At the same time, the proportion of married women in the labour force has increased and in 1941 out of every ten women in the labour force one was married. In 1946, 23 per cent of all women employed in industries other than agriculture were married. Moreover, their occupational dispersion was increasing. Women were entering fields of endeavour not previously known to them.

The War and Women Workers

The volume of women's employment is especially sensitive to the expansion and contraction of conditions in the economy as a whole. War demands gave a tremendous impetus to the already existing trend towards the increasing employment of women in Canada. Expanding war industries and the need to replace men entering the armed forces meant a greater than normal increase in the number of women in the labour force. Not only did the number of women in the labour force increase, but women accepted all kinds of jobs formerly performed only by men. They replaced skilled mechanics and technicians as well as clerical and sales workers.

War an Impetus to Number of Employed Women

Women from all walks of life were drawn into the labour force. The large number of jobs available attracted young girls out of school at an earlier age than during pre-war years. A large proportion of the older women without the responsibility of young children entered the labour market. The proportion of married women working increased substantially.

Forty thousand women entered the armed forces. This released a like number of men for active service. At the same time, some 250,000 women were employed in war industries, or approximately one person in every five so engaged. October 1, 1943, was the date of peak war employment. At this time some 1,060,000 women were gainfully occupied in industries other than agriculture, that is, one person in every three employed in non-agricultural industry was a woman compared with the ratio of one person in four in 1939.

Rural Exodus Accelerated By War

During the war years the existing movement from rural to urban areas was speeded up. Some 37,000 women left the farm between October 1, 1939 and October 1, 1943. At the same time farmers were leaving for war work and the armed forces. The result was that the remaining women worked longer and harder to maintain production.

Number of Women Wage and Salary Workers in Non-Agricultural Industry

(Thousands of persons, 14 years of age and over)

Industry Group	October 1, 1939 ⁽¹⁾		October 1, 1943 ⁽¹⁾		February 1, 1946 ⁽²⁾	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Forestry, fishing and trapping .....	.4	.1	1.7	.2	2.4	.3
Mining .....	.6	.1	2.3	.2	1.8	.2
Manufacturing	153.2	27.5	350.6	36.9	242.2	30.3
Construction	1.4	.2	4.9	.5	3.0	.4
Transportation and communication	14.2	2.6	32.8	3.5	37.1	4.6
Trade, finance and insurance	98.0	17.6	209.2	22.0	195.4	24.4
Service	280.5	51.9	348.0	36.7	318.1	39.8
Total	556.3	100.0	949.5	100.0	800.0	100.0

(1) Estimates made by Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(2) D.B.S. Labour Force Survey.

Influx of Women into Manufacturing-Concentrated in Iron and Steel

Although the number of women employed in each industry increased, with the exception of domestic service, there was considerable change in the distribution of women among the various industries. Manufacturing industries in 1943 employed over twice as many women as they did in 1939, employing 37 per cent of all women wage and salary workers as compared with 27 per cent in 1939. This gain in the employment of women was concentrated in the iron and steel group. The number of women engaged in trading and financial establishments also doubled, so that these industries employed 22 per cent of the total in 1943 compared with 18 per cent in 1939.

Domestic Service Suffered Sharp Decline in War Years

On the other hand, employment in the domestic service group fell by 20,000 in the same period, showing a relative drop of from 18.6 per cent to 9.3 per cent of all employed women. Not only was there an outflow of workers from the service industries but the shortage of domestics was amplified by the increasing demand brought on by rising prosperity.

Occupational Shifts Meant Wage Boosts

The relatively higher wages paid by manufacturing and trading establishments attracted women workers. The highest wages for females were paid in the iron and steel products industry. Aircraft manufacturing, shipbuilding and repairs paid an average of \$31.81 per week to women workers. In

the pre-war period the highest weekly wage paid to women was an average of \$15.83 in the fur goods industry. The average wage for all female wage earners in manufacturing industries rose from \$12.10 in 1938 to \$19.33 per week in 1943. There was a continuous movement out of low-wage service and unskilled occupations into the higher paying skilled positions in manufacturing. In addition, women worked longer hours during the war. This overtime brought their wages up considerably.

The Present Situation

Mass Lay-offs of Women after V-J Day

Extensive lay-off of workers in industry, particularly in those making munitions, aircraft and other direct war supplies followed the close of the European war and the surrender of Japan. As women made up about 20 per cent of all persons engaged in war industries, these lay-offs affected them especially. At October 1, 1943, the peak date for war employment, over 200,000 women were engaged in war manufacturing alone. At V-E Day this figure stood at 144,000 and at V-J Day, 94,000. Thus 50,000 women were laid-off from war plants in the three months between V-E Day and V-J Day. At May 1, 1946, only 4,000 women were engaged in tail-end war production. In one year 90,000 lost their positions with war plants. All figures exclude employment in the Government War Departments — the Department of Munitions and Supply and the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

How have these mass lay-offs affected the general female employment picture? At V-J Day, approximately 22,000 women were registered as unplaced applicants. With the cut-backs in war industry, this figure increased until it reached 49,000, at the end of March. Since then reconversion progress and seasonal expansion alleviated the problem somewhat and at June 28, female unplaced applicants stood at 37,700.

Unemployment among women has been relatively low when compared with unemployment as a whole. In February, 1946, according to the Labour Force Survey of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, out of every thirty women in the civilian labour force one was unemployed, as compared with one in twenty among males.

Withdrawal of Married Women was both Voluntary and Compulsory

Several factors have contributed to this relatively low level of unemployment among women. In the first place, the large number of men discharged from the armed forces following the unexpected surrender of Japan together with the heavy cut-backs of male workers in war industry, inflated male unemployment. Women, on the other hand, were withdrawing from the labour force as the servicemen returned home. Many women who lost their jobs in war industry did not seek re-employment. Most of the women that withdrew from the labour force were married. This withdrawal was both normal and desirable. It was the deliberate policy of both government and private industry to exclude married women from employment to provide positions for returning servicemen.

Female Job Surplus Predominantly in Low Wage Categories

At the present time, the number of unfilled vacancies for women exceeds the number of unplaced applicants. However, the greatest demand for women is concentrated in the lower paying occupations such as service

work, textile work and unskilled positions. It has been shown that during the war, women entered the higher paying industries and in these industries they learned new skills. At the present time they are reluctant to accept low-wage jobs. A large surplus of clerical and sales workers exist. This is probably the result of the re-instatement of male workers. The number of applicants for metalworking occupations exceeds the number of vacancies by almost 1,000, as women are applying for jobs using the skills which they acquired during the war.

Female Labour Immobility Persists

Another difficulty encountered in matching applicants with vacancies is the general immobility of female labour. Much of the demand for workers is concentrated in Quebec and Ontario. The supply is spread more evenly throughout all provinces. In addition, although many women are applying for jobs in the various occupations, they may not meet the requirements of the employer.

More Jobless Women Claim Unemployment Insurance

There were 24,680 women signing the live unemployment register during the last six working days of May. This figure is four times what it was last May, while the number of unplaced applicants has not doubled during the same period. At the present time a larger proportion of unplaced applicants are registering for unemployment insurance. At May 31, 1945, only one applicant in four registered for unemployment insurance compared with more than one in two at May 31, 1946. This not only reflects the fact that more women are now eligible for unemployment insurance but that there is a definite resistance to re-enter low-wage industries. At the same time some women are registering for unemployment insurance who intend to withdraw from the labour market as soon as their benefits are exhausted. This latter group, although ostensibly in the labour force, tend to exaggerate the total number of women in the labour force and the number seeking work.

Changing Distribution of Women in Present Labour Force

Since V.J. day the proportion of women employed in industrial groups has changed. Only 24 per cent of all persons employed in manufacturing industries are women compared with 26 per cent last October and 27 per cent last April. The distribution throughout manufacturing industries has altered as well. A larger proportion of women are being employed in leather and leather products, in pulp and paper products, rubber products and textiles. On the other hand, the proportion of women in the iron and steel industry has declined sharply. At October 1, 1943, 15 per cent of all employed women were engaged in the iron and steel products industry. At the present time 5.6 per cent of the total women employed are working for these firms. The proportion of women employed in trade, finance and service as compared with women employed in all industries has increased since last fall but the female sex ratio has dropped as a proportionally larger number of men were engaged.

Although a large number of women withdrew from the labour force, it is estimated that 68,000 women in non-agricultural industry left between last November and February - many women remained in the labour force who did not intend to continue working. The family wage earners may have been lost or disabled. The depletion of the male population results in a large proportion of single women who must support themselves by their own earnings.

At the same time many married women have enjoyed working. They have become accustomed to the additions to the family budget which they make, and as a result they wish to continue.

General Conclusions and the Future Outlook

New Budget Hits Employed Married Women

The trend of a constantly increasing proportion of women entering the labour force was accelerated during the war years. There may be a larger proportion of married women desiring to work, as modern household equipment cuts down the drudgery of housework. However, with the increase in unemployment which followed the end of the war, it became the deliberate policy of the government and private industry to discourage married women seeking employment. The recent budget presented by the Minister of Finance for the fiscal year 1946 - 1947 illustrates this point. In 1942, as a means of encouraging married women to take employment in wartime, the husband was allowed to retain the marital allowance if his wife's income represented earnings received from an employment. Effective January 1, 1947 a husband and wife each having incomes in excess of \$7.00 will each be taxed as a single person. In addition the husband is given the full marital allowance only when the wife's income does not exceed \$250 a year. When the wife's income exceeds this amount, however, the \$1,500 allowance granted the husband is reduced in proportion to the excess of her income over \$250. This policy is indicative of the extreme vulnerability of women in the employment field. Women are encouraged only to enter the labour market when economic activity is at such a level that their employment will not prevent men from obtaining positions. However, many married women are compelled to earn their own living and the new budget has been labelled as "discriminatory" by many women interested in public affairs.

At the present time it is expected that unemployment among women has reached its maximum and during the coming months the number of unemployed applicants will continue to decline.

Women Have Become Conditioned to Higher Wage Scale

Agriculture is a declining source of employment. More women will seek employment in the higher paying manufacturing industries while the scarcity of domestic servants will continue for some time. It has been suggested that more workers would enter the service field if the working conditions and wages were improved. There is an increasing demand for service workers in the educational and health fields and for social service work. All distributive trades are due for expansion.

Many women who have been displaced by the cut-backs will have to be retrained for civilian work. Some of this retraining has already been done in individual plants as a part of their reconversion programme.

Full Employment Must Include Women

The number of women in the labour force will depend on the number of jobs to be had. Women's fortunes are tied in with those of men. As a whole they depend on the general level of economic activity. Any plan for social security and full employment must include women. Full employment should mean jobs for women who want and need them.

Section 3:--Operations of the National Employment Service

Significant New Developments

The rate of increase in placements effected by the National Employment Service which has been evident since March, was maintained during May. Placement of men, in the Maritime provinces, particularly, rose markedly during the month.

In contrast, the rate of expansion in vacancies notified slackened during May. The contra-seasonal slump in jobs reported in the construction and transportation industries accounted for the greater part of the decline.

Despite the decreased rate of demobilization, applications for employment increased during May. Claims for unemployment insurance, however, fell substantially during the month.

A sharp rise was reported during May in the engagements effected without referral by the Employment Service. As more employment opportunities have become available, there has been a decided increase in the number of workers getting jobs through their own efforts.

Upswing in Vacancies Notified Tapers Off (Reference Table I and Table VI)

The upswing in industrial activity, as indicated by the number of vacancies reported, began to level off during May, in contrast to the usual seasonal trend. Average weekly vacancies in non-agricultural industries totalled approximately 40,000 in May, as compared with 37,000 in April and 31,000 in March. Shortage of skilled help and raw materials, together with the general labour unrest, obstructs any large-scale advance in the number of job opportunities reported at Employment Service offices. Vacancies notified during May, however, were only slightly below the level reported for the comparative period last year.

Trend in Labour Demand Clouded by Strikes

The percentage rise in jobs reported for women was more than double that reported for men during the month. An increasing demand for women occurred in textile, food processing, and rubber manufacturing plants, as well as in occupations in finance and insurance. Jobs reported for men in the Prairie provinces and British Columbia dropped due to the crippling effect of the prolonged lumber industry strike. Practically no expansion was evident in the construction industry throughout Canada. Consistent gains in vacancies notified continued in the mining industry. Jobs reported during May were 22 per cent above the level reported during the same month in 1945. Approximately 20 per cent more workers were required in the Dominion postal service.

A repercussion of the strike of the seamen's union was a contra-seasonal drop in labour requirements in the transportation industry. Vacancies reported during the current period were 40 per cent below the level reported during the corresponding period last year.

During May, jobs were filled almost as fast as they were reported. Approximately 12,000 more jobs were reported in May than in April, but vacancies at the end of May were only 3,000 more than reported at May 2.

Table I--Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified, by Province and by Sex, May, 1946 with Percentage Change during the month.

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Provinces:	Average Weekly Vacancies Notified			
	Male	Change During May	Female	Change During May
Canada.....	28,191	+ 6	11,898	+13
Maritime Provinces.....	2,159	+28	679	+ 9
Quebec.....	6,841	+12	2,747	+32
Ontario.....	12,372	+ 6	5,335	+ 9
Prairie Provinces.....	3,572	- 1	1,812	+ 1
British Columbia.....	3,247	- 8	1,325	+18

Volume of Applicants Registered Increases
(Reference Table II)

Applications for work rose during May, in contrast to the downward trend evident since November. Despite the declining rate of demobilization, an average of 35,000 applicants sought work in May as compared with 33,000 in April. The influx of teachers and students seeking work at the Employment Service offices, workers on strike looking for temporary employment and the increased number of workers attempting to better their present status, undoubtedly account for many of the applications for employment at this time. Despite the fact that more people were looking for work in May than in April, unemployment at the end of May was 13 per cent less than at the beginning of the month. In contrast unemployment at the end of April was only 9 per cent below the level reported at the first of the month. This indicates that the labour market is absorbing job seekers at an increasing rate.

Quebec Female Trend Dominates

An increase in the number of male applicants seeking work accounted entirely for the rise in applications during May. Female applications continued to fall off during the month, due to the sharp decline in Quebec which offset slight rises evident elsewhere. The number of female applications for employment in Quebec has been halved since March while in the other provinces no substantial change is reported in the number of applicants registering during the same period. Exhaustion of unemployment insurance benefits for women was much greater in Quebec than elsewhere. This factor, reinforced by the inherent cultural tendency within the province

for women to remain in the home, has resulted in a sharp withdrawal of women from the labour market in Quebec. Vacancies reported in this province, however, have continued to rise and by the end of May were greater than one-third the available supply of workers. The geographical distribution of demand and supply throughout the province is such that some areas report considerable unemployment while other localities are seriously in need of more workers. The lack of housing accommodation obstructs large-scale transfer of workers.

Jobs Reported Exceed Applicants Registered

Manpower requirements reported during May were 13 per cent above applications for employment during the month, due entirely to the improved employment situation in Quebec and Ontario. In the other provinces, applicants registering outnumbered jobs reported. On the other hand, the Maritime provinces showed an improvement in May. Whereas the number of vacancies reported in April was only 77 per cent of applications for work, in May the percentage had risen to 91. In the Prairie provinces and British Columbia the labour situation showed a marked deterioration.

Table II—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified and Applicants Registered, by Province during May, 1946.

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies		Average Weekly Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Canada.....	40,089	100	35,376	100
Maritime Province.....	2,839	7	3,133	9
Quebec.....	9,588	24	8,092	23
Ontario.....	17,707	44	12,750	36
Prairie Provinces.....	5,383	14	6,297	18
British Columbia.....	4,572	11	5,104	14

Referrals Fall Off

(Reference Table III and Table VII)

The increase in referral activity levelled off during May. Average weekly referrals in non-agricultural industries totalled 28,000 as compared with 26,000 in April. When referral activity is compared with total jobs available (unfilled vacancies at the beginning of the month plus vacancies notified during the month) a current decline in referrals per job available is evident. In May, 41 referrals were made per 100 jobs available while in April 49 referrals were effected for the same number of jobs.

Unfilled Vacancies a Persistent Core of Unfilled Jobs

The pattern of referral activity follows closely the trend of vacancies notified. This indicates that the number of referrals made is largely dependent on the number of jobs reported rather than in fluctuations in labour supply. In addition, since referral activity follows vacancies notified rather than total jobs available it is apparent that generally speaking unfilled vacancies represents a "core" of accumulated jobs which are not being filled from month to month. The skills of those seeking employment tend more to match current job openings.

Table III--Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Referrals by Sex,
From May 1945, to May, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Month		Male	Female	Total
May,	1945.....	26,804	12,155	38,959
June	"	30,499	9,755	40,254
July	"	28,217	7,885	36,102
August	"	29,431	7,943	37,374
September	"	31,653	9,302	40,956
October	"	31,197	8,924	40,121
November	"	28,258	8,669	36,907
December	"	16,198	5,448	21,646
January,	1946.....	12,949	6,795	19,744
February	"	12,924	6,725	19,649
March	"	14,547	7,400	21,947
April	"	18,742	7,286	26,028
May	"	20,224	7,683	27,907

Rise in Male Placements

(Reference - Table IV and Table VIII)

The rate of increase in placements effected during the past few months was maintained during May. Average weekly placements in non-agricultural industries in May totalled 18,000. In all industries, with the exception of mining and construction however, placements were well below the level reported during the same month last year. During May, 1946, placements increased by 46 per cent in the mining industry and by 21 per cent in the construction industry. Substantial gains in placements effected were also reported in the Dominion postal service, food processing plants, and sawmills. The increase in placements was largely confined to male workers. The male unemployment situation in the Maritime provinces showed a substantial improvement; placements increased 64 per cent during May. Quebec reported a 26 per cent increase in men placed during the same period.

Fewer referrals were needed to effect a placement in May than in April. During May, 64 per cent of referrals resulted in placements whereas in April only 61 per cent of those referred to jobs were placed. The implication is that jobs and workers are becoming more easily matched.

Table IV--Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Placements
By Sex, from May, 1945, to May, 1946

Month		Male	Female	Total
May	1945.....	20,094	9,228	29,322
June	"	22,874	7,161	30,035
July	"	21,396	5,469	26,865
August	"	20,766	5,093	25,859
September	"	24,239	5,972	30,211
October	"	23,621	5,379	29,000
November	"	22,823	5,307	28,130
December	"	13,765	3,703	17,468
January,	1946.....	9,177	3,763	12,940
February	"	8,643	3,816	12,459
March	"	9,812	4,159	13,971
April	"	11,871	4,059	15,930
May	"	13,598	4,387	17,985

Employment Servicing Increases in Executive and Professional Class

Placement of Executive and Professional applicants totalled 62 per week in May: an increase of 7 per cent over the previous month. Referral activity rose by 20 per cent during the same period, while the number of vacancies notified increased by 14 per cent and applicants registered remained substantially unchanged. Unemployment, however, has been steadily increasing among Executive and Professional workers. The improvement in the general unemployment situation has been mainly the result of expansion in the seasonal industries which have only a very limited demand for Executive and Professional workers. By the end of May, 1,241 jobs were on file for this type of worker, while the unemployed in this division numbered 2,438. The greatest surplus of Executive and Professional workers continues to be in Quebec, while a shortage is reported in Ontario.

Unemployment among Handicapped Workers Drops

Placement of handicapped workers during the period April 15 - May 14, remained at the same level as reported in the previous period. There were 1,109 placements (male 867 and female 242) effected during the period ending May 14. Unemployment among handicapped workers fell by almost 10 per cent during the period to total 6,346 at the May date. Handicapped women are more easily placed than men. Women comprised 22 per cent of total handicapped placements and 7 per cent of the total handicapped job seekers during the period.

Volume of Engagements Without Referral Swells (Reference - Table V and Table IX)

A constantly increasing number of workers are getting jobs without the aid of the Employment Service. Average weekly non-agricultural engagements made without referral totalled nearly 27,000 during May as compared with 22,000 in April. The seasonally active industries reporting substantial advances in engagements without referral were construction 43 per cent, mining 42 per cent and food processing 29 per cent. Engagements of male workers showed the greatest gains during May, with a 67 per cent increase in the Maritimes, and slightly smaller rises in Ontario and the Prairie provinces.

As employment opportunities open up, the incentive to seek work through channels other than the Employment Service has become greater.

Table V—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Engagements Without Referral by Province, during May and April, 1946, with Actual and Percentage Changes.

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Engagements		Change During Month	
	May	April	Actual	Per Cent
Canada.....	26,820	22,180	+4,640	+21
Maritime Provinces.....	1,779	1,119	+ 660	+59
Quebec.....	8,839	6,475	+2,364	+37
Ontario.....	9,226	8,811	+ 415	+ 5
Prairie Provinces.....	3,841	2,999	+ 842	+28
British Columbia.....	3,135	2,776	+ 359	+13

Separation Rate Shows Little Change
(Reference - Table X)

Little change was evident in the number of separations effected during April and May. Approximately 30,000 non-agricultural separations were reported each week during May as compared with 29,000 in April and 32,000 during May, 1945. During the current period, 42 per cent of separations were in the manufacturing industry as compared with 48 per cent during May last year. The percentage of separations in the trade and construction industries, has, however, increased considerably during the year.

OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ON A COMPARATIVE MONTHLY BASIS

NOTE: FIGURES HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH

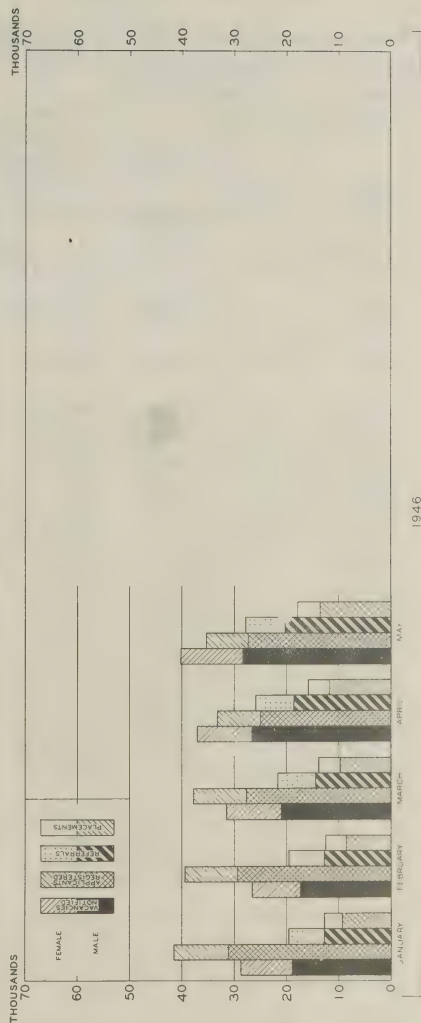
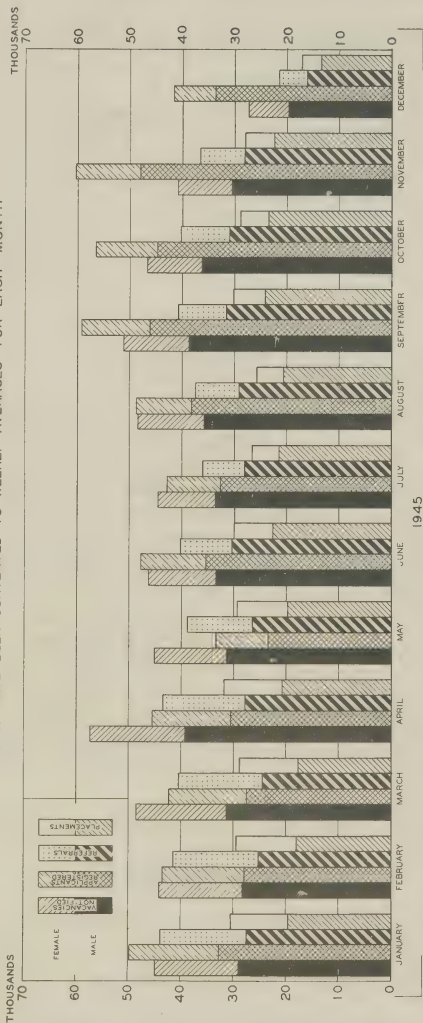


Table VI—Non-agricultural Vacancies Notified as Reported by the
National Employment Service, May, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Vacancies During Month	Average Weekly Vacancies		
		Number	% Change From	
			Apr. 1946	May 1945
All industries.....	160,357	40,089	8.0	-11.4
Logging.....	14,778	3,694	12.4	10.2
Mining.....	5,045	1,261	32.2	22.3
Manufacturing.....	50,842	12,710	6.1	-25.2
Food and kindred products.....	7,550	1,886	23.2	-21.7
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	9,576	2,394	34.3	-2.2
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	5,444	1,361	-7.6	-23.8
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	4,585	1,146	10.9	-19.9
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,899	475	24.7	-14.4
Products of petroleum and coal.....	320	80	-18.4	-50.3
Rubber goods.....	1,633	408	43.2	-0.5
Leather and products.....	1,682	421	19.6	6.6
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,637	409	-11.1	-5.8
Iron and steel and their products.....	4,519	1,130	7.4	-37.6
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,941	485	3.9	-23.4
Machinery.....	4,092	1,023	-22.6	-13.8
Transportation equipment.....	4,270	1,068	-17.7	-62.3
Miscellaneous.....	1,694	424	-4.1	-13.8
Construction.....	22,633	5,658	5.1	22.0
Transportation and storage.....	8,446	2,112	-6.8	-41.6
Other public utilities.....	2,518	630	28.6	0.0
Trade.....	15,212	3,803	3.1	-21.0
Finance and insurance.....	2,741	685	31.5	-7.1
Public and professional service.....	11,500	2,875	16.7	19.7
Other service.....	26,642	6,661	9.1	-5.2

Table VII--Non-agricultural Referrals as Reported by the
National Employment Service, May, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Refer- rals During Month	Average Weekly Referrals		
		Number	% Change From	
			Apr. 1946	May 1945
All Industries.....	111,626	27,907	7.2	-28.4
Logging.....	3,305	826	7.4	-70.2
Mining.....	3,856	964	19.8	16.1
Manufacturing.....	35,048	8,762	3.0	-39.2
Food and kindred products.....	5,469	1,367	13.5	-38.8
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	4,530	1,132	5.9	-35.8
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	4,209	1,052	10.3	-30.8
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	2,943	736	7.3	-36.1
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,680	420	22.4	-28.7
Products of petroleum and coal.....	341	85	1.2	-41.0
Rubber goods.....	702	176	6.7	-52.8
Leather and products.....	887	222	5.7	-16.6
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,566	391	17.8	10.8
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,851	963	14.8	-45.9
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,497	374	24.7	-16.9
Machinery.....	3,157	789	-22.0	-31.3
Transportation equipment.....	3,078	770	-26.3	-65.7
Miscellaneous.....	1,138	285	5.9	-26.9
Construction.....	18,516	4,629	11.6	33.4
Transportation and storage.....	5,868	1,467	-6.0	-59.9
Other public utilities.....	1,465	366	7.6	-29.9
Trade.....	14,432	3,608	3.0	-26.7
Finance and insurance.....	1,879	470	8.5	-37.3
Public and professional service.....	8,586	2,147	25.3	3.1
Other service.....	18,671	4,668	9.9	-16.0

Table VIII— Non-agricultural Placements as Reported by the
National Employment Service, May, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Place- ments during month	Average Weekly Placements		
		Number	% Change From	
			Apr. 1946	May 1945
All industries	71,938	17,985	12.9	-38.7
Logging	3,204	801	5.7	-69.7
Mining	2,834	708	46.3	8.3
Manufacturing	21,303	5,326	6.2	-49.7
Food and kindred products.....	3,205	801	19.2	-50.1
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	2,592	648	66.4	-52.4
Lumber and finished lumber products	3,085	771	20.1	-37.2
Pulp and paper products and printing	1,901	475	17.6	-47.1
Chemicals and allied products.....	867	217	34.8	-43.8
Products of petroleum and coal.....	160	40	14.3	-59.6
Rubber goods.....	471	118	18.0	-56.9
Leather and products.....	409	102	4.1	-53.2
Stone, clay and glass products.....	915	229	21.2	-11.9
Iron and steel and their products..	2,189	547	16.6	-54.8
Non-ferrous metals.....	964	241	52.5	-27.6
Machinery.....	1,746	437	-26.7	-42.1
Transportation equipment.....	2,229	557	-24.8	-66.8
Miscellaneous.....	570	143	2.9	-49.1
Construction.....	12,860	3,215	21.2	21.0
Transportation and storage.....	3,957	989	-7.2	-64.7
Other public utilities.....	1,015	254	20.4	-30.0
Trade.....	7,800	1,950	10.5	-40.3
Finance and insurance.....	807	202	8.6	-60.3
Public and professional service.....	5,803	1,451	32.3	-11.6
Other service.....	12,355	3,089	14.5	-26.5

Table IX—Non-agricultural Engagements Without Referral as Reported
by the National Employment Service, May, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Engage- ments During Month	Average Weekly Engagements		
		Number	% Change From	
			Apr. 1946	May 1945
All industries.....	107,279	26,820	20.9	317.2
Logging.....	12,114	3,028	32.3	228.8
Mining	3,684	921	42.3	305.7
Manufacturing.....	34,540	8,635	13.5	347.4
Food and kindred products.....	5,114	1,278	28.7	296.9
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	4,777	1,194	9.3	646.3
Lumber and finished lumber products	4,743	1,186	18.2	122.9
Pulp and paper products and				
printing.....	3,558	839	10.5	325.9
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,201	300	23.8	368.8
Products of petroleum and coal.....	407	102	25.9	325.0
Rubber goods.....	717	179	- 3.3	1,391.7
Leather and products.....	1,123	281	- 1.4	602.5
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,222	306	16.8	488.5
Iron and steel and their products..	2,717	679	3.7	426.4
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,315	329	7.9	477.2
Machinery.....	2,735	684	16.3	695.3
Transportation equipment.....	3,896	974	15.4	363.8
Miscellaneous.....	1,215	304	- 2.3	546.8
Construction.....	14,962	3,740	42.7	685.7
Transportation and storage.....	7,506	1,877	10.7	178.9
Other public utilities.....	2,271	568	56.9	385.5
Trade.....	10,799	2,700	14.3	233.7
Finance and insurance.....	1,672	418	21.9	359.3
Public and professional service.....	8,400	2,100	13.0	345.9
Other service.....	11,331	2,833	18.1	290.2

Table X--Non-agricultural Separations as Reported by the
National Employment Service, May, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Separ- ations During Month	Average Weekly Separations		
		Number	% Change From	
			Apr. 1946	May 1945
All industries.....	119,349	29,837	1.5	-7.8
Logging.....	10,702	2,675	- 7.1	-22.7
Mining.....	4,028	1,007	2.7	35.7
Manufacturing.....	49,588	12,397	1.6	-20.1
Food and kindred products.....	6,595	1,649	0.0	- 1.2
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	7,693	1,923	1.5	34.5
Lumber and finished lumber products...	5,289	1,323	5.6	29.1
Pulp and paper products and printing..	3,599	900	0.8	27.3
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,737	434	- 6.9	-69.7
Products of petroleum and coal.....	529	132	20.0	53.5
Rubber goods.....	1,343	336	9.1	56.3
Leather and products.....	1,549	387	- 7.4	59.3
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,429	357	4.1	79.4
Iron and steel and their products....	5,053	1,263	- 4.4	-65.7
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,960	490	22.8	- 1.0
Machinery.....	4,593	1,148	- 3.0	9.6
Transportation equipment.....	6,384	1,596	4.6	-45.6
Miscellaneous.....	1,835	459	5.3	59.9
Construction.....	13,387	3,347	15.9	78.7
Transportation and storage.....	7,656	1,914	- 5.5	-11.3
Other public utilities.....	1,456	364	18.2	48.6
Trade.....	12,836	3,209	1.5	12.3
Finance and insurance.....	1,869	467	8.6	14.2
Public and professional service.....	7,615	1,904	- 3.5	-15.2
Other service.....	10,212	2,553	- 0.1	-11.3

PART II

DEMOBILIZATION AND RECONVERSION

Section I--ACTIVITIES OF EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

The downward trend in discharges from the armed forces continued during May. In May 38,000 service personnel were released as compared with 56,000 in the previous month.

More ex-servicemen registered at National Employment Service offices during May than in the previous month. Similarly, more placements were effected. There were, however, fewer ex-servicemen reinstated in their pre-war employment.

Unemployment among ex-service personnel is declining steadily. During May, there was a sharp decline in the number unemployed and also in the percentage registered as unplaced for 15 days or more. The easing of the unemployment situation is reflected in a decline in the number of ex-servicemen receiving out-of-work allowances. The occupational classification of unplaced ex-service personnel at the end of May is substantially unchanged from one month earlier.

Discharges

The number being released from the armed forces continues to decline sharply. During May, 38,000 service personnel were discharged, bringing to more than 900,000 the total number discharged since the beginning of the war. At the end of May, the effective strength of the armed forces was 122,000. This figure excludes deserters, those missing, those on extended leave and those seconded. Table I shows discharges, by months, January, 1945 to May, 1946, inclusive.

Table I—Number Discharged from Armed Forces, by Months
January, 1945 to May, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence)

Month	Navy	Army	Air Force	Total
January, 1945.....	588	3,320	7,850	11,758
February "	592	3,654	8,487	12,733
March "	672	3,249	3,791	7,712
April "	772	4,312	3,236	8,320
May "	657	6,119	3,023	9,799
June "	1,679	10,602	3,040	15,321
July "	3,139	15,393	5,996	24,528
August "	6,679	22,184	8,503	37,366
September "	9,878	34,093	30,773	74,744
October "	14,931	45,994	32,042	92,967
November "	15,712	35,813	13,873	65,398
December "	7,668	22,118	8,454	38,240
January, 1946.....	7,560	40,735	8,554	56,849
February "	7,552	48,665	9,018	65,235
March "	5,493	56,512	8,641	70,646
April "	4,998	44,439	6,325	55,762
May "	2,743	29,728	6,005	38,476

Applications for Employment in National Employment Service Offices

In spite of the continued slackening in demobilization, more ex-servicemen registered with National Employment Service offices during May than in the previous month. There was, however, a slight decline in the number registering for the first time. The increase was in the number classified as revivals, that is, those who had been previously registered with the employment service. As the number of ex-servicemen who have entered the labour market through the employment service grows, an increase may be expected in the number returning to employment offices. On the other hand, as demobilization nears completion, the number of ex-servicemen applying for the first time should decline considerably. During May, 48,999 ex-service personnel made application for employment at National Employment Service Offices. Of this number, 19,807 had been previously employed since discharge. Table II shows the total number of discharges and applications of World War II ex-servicemen, by months, August, 1945 to May, 1946 inclusive.

Table II—Discharges from Armed Forces and Applications of World War II Dischargees by Months, August, 1945 to May, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Discharges	Applications	
		New Applicants	Revivals
August, 1945	37,366	23,950	10,616
September "	74,744	31,351	12,092
October "	92,967	43,586	18,546
November "	65,398	37,726	20,379
December "	38,240	24,934	16,133
January, 1946	56,849	27,641	18,568
February "	65,235	25,025	17,075
March "	70,646	30,400	18,271
April "	55,762	26,288	16,874
May "	38,476	25,216	19,807

Placements

Thirty-five per cent of all persons placed by National Employment Service offices during May were ex-servicemen. In May, 28,522 ex-servicemen were placed as compared with 25,505 during the previous month. In addition to those placed, 4,571 ex-service personnel had been referred to specific jobs but notification as to their placement or rejection by employers had not been received. A campaign of information is being currently conducted to place before employers the skills and talents of veterans, particularly those who suffered serious disability in this war. From April 15 to May 14 there were 444 handicapped ex-servicemen placed by the National Employment Service offices.

In May, 22 per cent of all ex-servicemen applicants were placed, including those unplaced at the beginning of the month and those making application during the month. The corresponding percentage for civilian applicants, while slightly more than a month earlier is less than the percentage for ex-service personnel. Figures on applications and placements are shown in Table III.

Table III—Live Applications and Placements of Ex-Servicemen with Civilian Comparison, August, 1945 to May, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 7550B and Form UIC 751B)

Month	Live Applications of Ex-Servicemen (1)	Placements of Ex-Servicemen (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per cent (3)	Civilian Equivalent of (3)
August, 1945.....	53,963	22,541	41.8	41.6
September "	69,292	29,321	42.3	38.4
October "	98,125	38,298	39.0	34.3
November "	106,955	38,674	36.2	29.5
December "	93,652	26,653	28.5	21.4
January, 1946.....	98,002	19,454	19.9	15.7
February "	106,295	16,831	15.8	12.9
March "	125,474	21,228	16.9	14.7
April "	130,062	25,505	19.6	17.2
May "	130,206	28,522	21.9	19.6

Reinstatements

A further decrease is apparent in the number of ex-service personnel being reinstated in civil employment. This decline, however, was to be expected with the decreased rate of discharge from the armed forces. During May, 12,099 ex-servicemen returned to their pre-war employment, bringing to 143,226 the total number reinstated since August 1, 1945. Reinstatements during this period represent 24 per cent of all discharges. Table IV shows cumulative discharges and reinstatements, monthly, August, 1945 to May, 1946.

Table IV—Cumulative Discharges and Reinstatements
Monthly, August, 1945 to May, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form UIC 8212)

Date	Cumulative Discharges since Aug.1,1945 (1)	Cumulative Reinstatements since Aug.1,1945 (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per cent
Aug. 31, 1945	37,366	2,828	7.6
Sept. 30, "	112,110	12,264	10.9
Oct. 31, "	205,077	30,307	14.8
Nov. 30, "	270,475	48,017	17.8
Dec. 31, "	308,715	60,320	19.5
Jan. 31, 1946	365,564	77,648	21.2
Feb. 28, "	430,799	95,013	22.1
Mar. 31, "	501,445	114,147	22.7
Apr. 30, "	557,207	131,127	23.5
May 31, "	595,683	143,226	24.0

Unemployed

With a general improvement in employment opportunities, unemployment among ex-service personnel is declining steadily. At the end of May, there were 72,370 ex-servicemen registered as unplaced applicants in National Employment Service offices as compared with 81,207 one month earlier. The percentage decline in unemployment among ex-servicemen was only slightly less than that in total unemployment during the same period. At May 31, unplaced ex-servicemen represented 34 per cent of all unplaced applicants. Of the 72,370 unemployed ex-servicemen, 52,722 or 73 per cent had been registered for 15 days or more. This percentage increased steadily during the winter months with the general rise in unemployment, but during May, dropped by 3 per cent. Table V shows total unplaced ex-servicemen and those unplaced 15 days or more, from May 31, 1945 to May 31, 1946.

Table V—Unplaced Ex-Servicemen and Those Unplaced 15 Days or More
as at the End of the Month, May, 1945 to May, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 7550B)

Date	Unplaced Ex-Servicemen (1)	Ex-Servicemen Unplaced 15 Days or More (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per cent
May 31, 1945	10,614	(a)	(a)
June 30, "	12,013	(a)	(a)
July 31, "	13,673	(a)	(a)
Aug. 31, "	18,956	5,599	29.5
Sept. 30, "	27,770	10,098	36.4
Oct. 31, "	40,780	13,977	34.3
Nov. 30, "	46,503	20,775	44.7
Dec. 31, "	45,974	27,887	60.7
Jan. 31, 1946	59,861	37,364	62.4
Feb. 28, "	72,305	50,286	69.5
Mar. 31, "	83,029	61,018	73.5
Apr. 30, "	81,207	61,292	75.5
May 31, "	72,370	52,722	72.9

(a) Figures not available

Unplaced discharges who served in World War II only, represented 87 per cent of the unplaced ex-servicemen at May 31. Of this group 23,202 had been previously employed since discharge. Sixty-three per cent of the unplaced ex-servicemen at May 31 were seeking employment for the first time since discharge. The decline in unemployment is reflected in a decreased number of ex-servicemen applying for out-of-work benefits. At the end of May, 40,699 ex-service personnel were receiving out-of-work allowances as compared with 49,552 one month previous. Table VI shows the number of ex-service personnel receiving out-of-work benefits as at the end of the month, August, 1945 to May, 1946.

Table VI—Ex-Service Personnel Receiving Out-of-Work Benefits
as at the End of the Month, August, 1945 to May, 1946

(Source: Department of Veterans Affairs)

Date	Number "On Benefit"
August 31, 1945.....	606
September 30, ".....	725
October 31, ".....	1,300
November 30, ".....	2,853
December 31, ".....	8,549
January 31, 1946.....	21,698
February 28, ".....	32,817
March 31, ".....	43,524
April 27, ".....	49,552
June 1, ".....	40,699

Occupational Classification of Unplaced Ex-Service Personnel

Little change is apparent in the occupational classification of unplaced ex-service personnel from that of one month earlier. At the end of May, 35 per cent were classified as skilled and semi-skilled and 35 per cent as unskilled. Within the skilled and semi-skilled group, however, there was a decline in the percentage registered as construction workers. The occupational classification of ex-servicemen differs considerably from that of civilian unplaced applicants. Twenty-nine per cent of civilian unplaced applicants at May 31 were registered as skilled or semi-skilled and 40 per cent as unskilled. Table VII shows the percentage distribution, by occupational groups, of unplaced ex-service personnel as at selected dates.

APPLICANTS AND PLACEMENTS EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

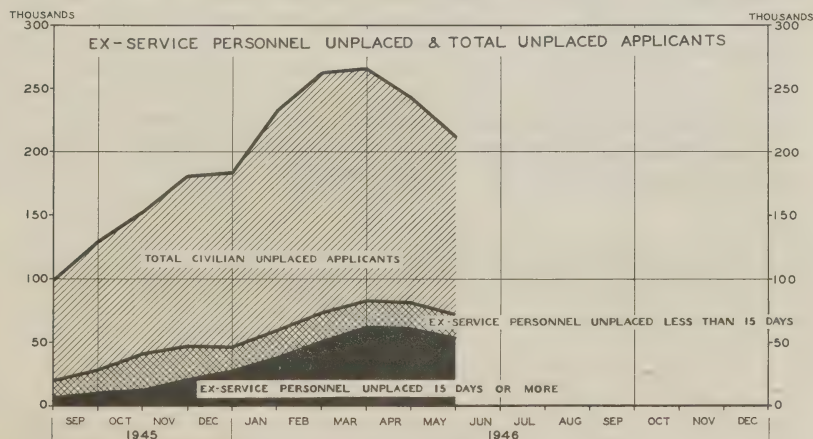
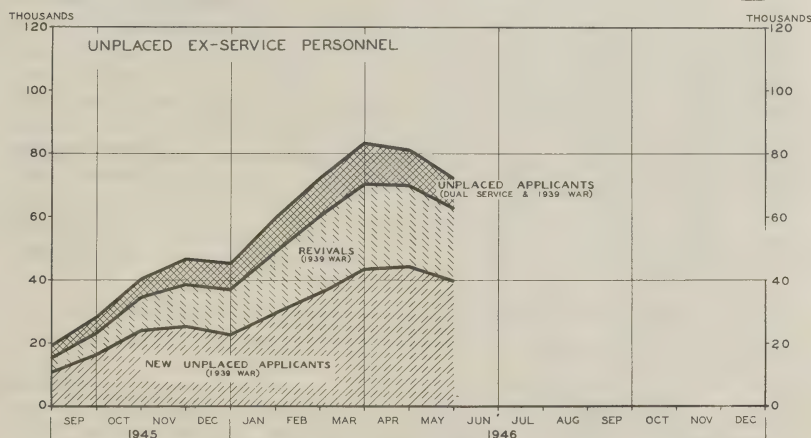
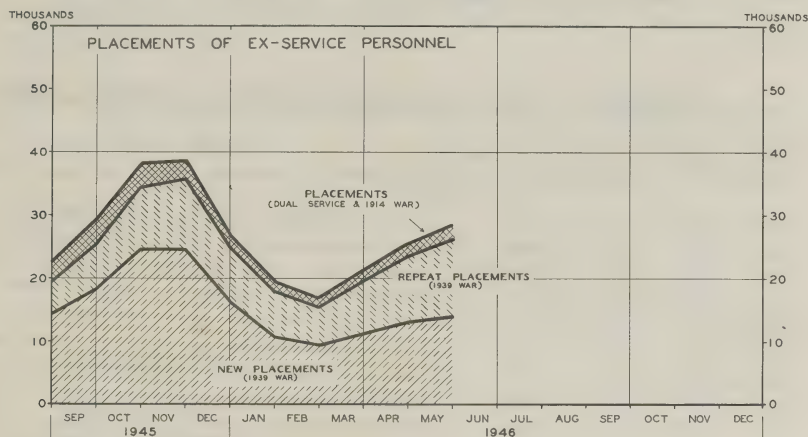


Table VII—Percentage Distribution of Occupational Categories of Unplaced Ex-Service Personnel as at Selected Dates, October, 1945; January, 1946; April, 1946 and May, 1946

(Source: Forms UIC 757 and 759 for Ex-Service Personnel)

Occupational Group	Oct. 31 1945	Jan. 31 1946	Apr. 30 1946	May 31 1946
Professional and managerial workers.....	6.7	5.2	4.9	5.4
Clerical workers.....	9.4	9.8	9.6	10.1
Sales workers.....	8.1	6.1	6.0	5.8
Service workers.....	4.7	5.1	4.8	5.1
Agricultural workers.....	1.5	1.7	3.5	2.8
Fishermen.....	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.6
Skilled and semi-skilled workers.....	39.0	37.5	35.7	35.2
Food products.....	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Textiles, clothing, etc.....	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3
Lumber and wood products.....	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.0
Pulp and paper products.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Printing.....	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3
Leather and products.....	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Stone, clay and glass.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Electrical.....	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.4
Mining and quarrying.....	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.5
Construction workers.....	3.4	5.4	4.0	3.3
Metalworkers.....	7.4	6.6	5.4	5.6
Miscellaneous.....	23.0	21.1	21.8	21.8
Unskilled workers.....	30.5	34.4	34.9	35.0
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Future Prospects

At the end of May the effective strength of the armed forces was 122,000. With demobilization nearing completion, a marked decline is apparent in the number of service personnel released. Discharges, however, while substantially fewer in number, will continue for several months. It is expected that discharges will total 20,000 in June, 15,000 in July and 14,000 in August. Approximately 50 per cent of these discharges will be seeking new employment. Thus, with a declining rate of discharge, and a general improvement in employment opportunities, unemployment among ex-service personnel may be expected to drop sharply in the next few months.

Section 2--THE MEAT PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

The establishments included in this classification are those primarily engaged in slaughtering and meat packing and in the production of sausage and sausage casing. In general, such plants slaughter livestock and poultry for sale to retail stores or to other manufacturing firms for use in the production of canned and cured meats, sausages, lard and edible oils and fats. Most plants, however, which engage in slaughtering operations also pack and cure meat, process by-products and manufacture sausages. In recent years, attempts to use every portion of the animal have made the development of by-products increasingly important.

National Importance

Fundamentally, the importance of the meat products industry lies in its position as medium between the livestock producer and the meat consumer. Canadian slaughtering and meat packing plants afford a market for several hundred thousand farmers; serve millions of consumers and provide an important source of employment as well as an outlet for investors' funds. In 1944, one-third of all cash income from the sale of farm products arose from the sale of livestock. There is an assured source of income to all who are connected with the industry as the nature of the product gives it an essential and permanent character.

A measure of the importance of the industry can be gained by comparing its principal statistics with those of the other leading Canadian manufacturing industries, as in Table I. Among the forty leading manufacturing industries in 1943, the gross value of production of the meat products industry was the third highest, surpassed only by non-ferrous metal smelting and refining and by the miscellaneous chemical products industries. While production did increase tremendously during the war, the position of the meat products industry among the first of all manufacturing industries is by no means a purely wartime phenomenon. From 1933-1943 the industry has never ranked lower than fourth in production value and on six occasions has placed third in the first 40 ranking industries.

One feature of the industry, apparent on Table I, is the remarkably high value of production which is achieved with a relatively small use of capital and labour. Total employment and capital invested in slaughtering and meat packing plants are smaller than in any of the other five top industries. On the basis of employment, it ranked twenty-second, and in capital invested, fourteenth, among the forty leading manufacturing industries in 1943. The relative importance of the cost of raw materials used was greater than in any other industry.

Geographical Distribution

From the number of firms listed as operating in 1943, one would suspect that the industry was widely distributed by area and by plant. Actually, the main volume of business is handled by a few large scale producers. Sixty-five per cent of the total employment is concentrated in the hands of the three largest firms, Canada Packers, Swift's and Burns. Ninety-per cent of employment is distributed among the thirteen largest companies.

The large-scale packing plants are always to be found in or near the larger population centres. This is primarily due to the fact that most meat distributed for domestic consumption is not frozen and consequently it will not stand a long period of transportation. Obviously, cities constitute the major markets for domestic demand. The greatest concentration of employment occurs in Ontario, with approximately 6,000 employees, Alberta with 3,500 and Quebec, which has 2,600. Toronto is the most important slaughtering and packing centre and is the site of the head offices of the two largest firms, Canada Packers and Swifts.

Table I--A Comparison of the Principal Statistics of the Meat Products Industry with those of Other Leading Manufacturing Industries, 1943.

(Source: Geographical Distribution of the Manufacturing Industries in Canada, General Manufacturers Branch, D.B.S.)

Industry	No. of Estab.	Capital Invested	Employees	Salaries and Wages	Cost of Materials	Gross Value of Production
Non-ferrous Metal smelting and refining.....	16	392,217,152	26,749	48,491,732	356,251,255	511,213,376
Miscellaneous chem. products.....	200	565,559,005	61,428	94,496,031	242,940,411	482,660,017
Slaughtering and meat packing.....	153	102,948,528	18,775	29,994,640	382,284,793	437,228,577
Shipbuilding and repairs.....	87	241,992,825	75,847	153,595,336	123,317,336	376,560,974
Misc. iron and steel products.....	161	276,501,433	48,567	95,810,305	181,658,309	364,698,074
Automobiles.....	5	139,610,450	24,265	57,569,265	248,652,602	352,229,955

Employment

From 1933-1939 a slight upward movement in the secular trend of employment is visible on the accompanying chart, but this is relatively insignificant when compared to the increases which took place under the impetus of abnormal wartime demand. During the war, employment almost doubled. At Sept. 1, 1939, 12,000 employees were working in slaughtering and meat packing plants; at the same date in 1944 the figure was 22,000. The rate of increase was reasonably steady until 1944 when a big jump occurred. The annual percentage increases were as follows: 1940 - 10%, 1941 - 14%, 1942 - 5%, 1943 - 8%, and 1944 - 28%. In 1945 employment dropped 1.2 points below the previous year's level.

The sharp decrease in employment from February to August 1945 was due mainly to the slump in hog production. Two factors combine to explain this

decline - the natural preference of western farmers for grain-growing and the higher prices available for wheat and other grains. By the fall of 1945, however, greatly increased numbers of cattle were available for slaughter and employment shot up to 25,000, an all-time high.

Price disputes between the farmer and the packing plants, reduced livestock production and normal seasonal declines have been the major factors determining the trend of employment in 1946. The decline which began in December, 1945, was still continuing at May 1, when reported employment was at the 20,000 mark, or 20 per cent below the peak reached last December.

Future Employment

Reports from the three largest Canadian meat packers indicate that these employers hope to add 15 per cent more employees to their staffs from July to October. This may be considered as a contra-seasonal trend, as on the average from 1933 - 46 little or no upswing occurs in this period. (See chart on seasonal variations).

These short term employment forecasts are based almost entirely on estimates of livestock which will be delivered to the plants for slaughter. Long term forecasts are dependent upon such additional factors as government policy with respect to the encouragement of raising hogs and beef; grain prices, export commitments and trade agreements. The present unlimited demand for Canadian meat based on exports to Europe, as well as the domestic market cannot be expected to continue indefinitely. The contract under which Great Britain agreed to accept all our surplus beef and pork runs to the end of 1946 only. A second key customer, UNRRA, will likely cease European operations this year. Eventually, Canada will be competing with South America and Denmark for a greatly reduced market and it seems inevitable that the volume of our exports will be considerably lessened.

In the long run, then, the increased livestock population plus smaller export trade will produce a surplus which may have important repercussions on price. Exports to the United States (in the period previous to 1942 Canada shipped 200,000 head of cattle annually to the U.S.), will help the livestock producer, but in any case, the meat products industry will probably revert to its pre-war status. This means that a drop in employment, possibly upwards from 5,000, is to be expected in the long run.

Earnings

As can be seen in Table I, the wage bill in the meat products industry is relatively small compared to the other groups listed, even when allowance is made for number employed. In 1939, slaughtering and meat packing ranked fourteenth among the forty leading manufacturing industries on the basis of average per capita weekly wages paid. By 1943, (the latest year for which figures are available), its ranking had dropped to twenty-seventh.⁽¹⁾ This is rather surprising in an industry in which much of the work is heavy and tedious and many occupations are highly skilled.

No complete series of statistics on earnings up to 1946 are available but the following table affords an approximation of the general trend.⁽²⁾ There seems to be little doubt that the imposition of wage and price ceilings in October, 1941, made the rate of increase more gradual, but this factor was offset somewhat by the payment of the cost of living bonus. In addition, longer hours of work and overtime pay contributed to higher weekly earnings.

Table II--Per Capita Weekly Earnings in the Meat Products Industry, 1941-46.

(Source: Employment and Payroll Statistics Branch, D.B.S.)

Month	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
January.....	—	25.72	26.66	28.23	27.10	29.70
April.....	25.20	28.57	29.90	30.91	31.56	32.65
July.....	26.12	28.47	30.14	29.91	31.05	—
October.....	27.03	29.23	30.31	30.27	32.05	—

(1) For male wage - earners only.

(2) There are two sources of statistics on earnings in the meat products industry. Those published by the Census of Manufactures Branch, D.B.S., are not available after 1943. The Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. has monthly unpublished estimates which extend back only to April 1941,

Wage Rates

No general average of wage rates in the meat products industry is published, but wage rates in the more important occupations are given in Table IV. General butchers, (including slaughterers), have the highest wage rates in all regions and packers are generally the lowest. Both packers and sausage makers are occupations in which a high percentage of women are employed. The sex breakdown given for sausage makers illustrates the wage differential between male and female employees doing the same type of work. By province, wage rates are the lowest in Quebec, while B.C., rates are the highest in many cases.

Table III shows that while wage rates in the meat products industry rose 29 per cent from 1939 to 1944, (statistics for 1945 are not yet available), the general index representing wage rates in all industries rose 37.5 per cent in the same period. When measured in terms of "real" wages, this meant an increase of 10 per cent in purchasing power to the meat products worker. In the same period, the percentage of salaries and wages in the gross value of production dropped 2 per cent. This was due to the fact that the increased volume of business was handled by a relatively smaller labour force, and while the worker was not receiving as high a proportion of the gross value of production, he was getting a higher wage.

Table III—Index Numbers of Wage Rates in the Meat Products Industry 1939-44
1939=100

(Source: Wages and Hours of Labour in Canada, Department of Labour)

Year	Meat Products	All Industries	"Real" Wages Meat Products (4)	"Real" Wages All Industries
1939.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1940.....	103.2	103.9	99.2	99.9
1941.....	112.7	113.1	102.4	102.8
1942.....	119.0	122.5	103.2	106.2
1943.....	127.2	132.8	109.0	113.8
1944.....	129.3	137.5	110.4	117.4

(4) Estimate of "real" wages obtained by dividing the wage rate index by the cost of living index on the same base.

Table IV--Average Wage Rate per hour by Occupation and Province 1944⁽¹⁾

(Source: Department of Labour)

Occupation	Canada	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.
Boners.....	.69	.60	.72	.72	.73	.70	.72
Casing Makers.....	.66	.60	.67	.68	.64	.66	.69
Coolers and Freezers....	.64	.59	.68	.65	.64	.67	.67
Curers and Cellarmen....	.64	.57	.68	.65	.65	.68	.71
General Butchers (2)....	.70	.63	.73	.71	.67	.72	.77
Lard Makers.....	.65	.60	.70	.71	.64	.67	.67
Motor Truck Driver.....	.64	.56	.66	.69	—	.68	.73
Packers.....	.60	.56	.59	.63	.64	.62	.67
Sausage Makers(F).....	.49	.42	.48	.52	.51	.51	.49
" " (M).....	.66	.59	.68	.66	.64	.68	.73
Shippers.....	.64	.58	.64	.65	.67	.64	.71
Trimmers.....	.67	.58	.66	.68	.68	.70	—

(1) Rates from Maritime Provinces included in Canada Average but not shown separately to avoid disclosing confidential information.

(2) Includes slaughterers.

Hours

Standard hours for packinghouse workers vary by occupations and area. The 50-55 hour work-week is the most common. Hours are notably lower in B.C. where a 48 hour week is standard.

Again, lack of uniform statistical data makes it difficult to assess the changes which have occurred in the industry during the war. The actual number of hours worked per week rose due to the shortage of labour and the urgency of demand. Since V-J day, a contraction in the number of hours worked has taken place. At April, 1946, the average packinghouse worker, including part time and casual employees, put in 41.6 hours per week compared to the 45.3 figure at December, 1944, the high point in the last two years.

Job Structure

The meat products industry is famous for its high degree of specialization and the unique character of many of its jobs. The dangers of perishability which plague the industry are offset by speeding up the production process through a fine division of labour. Consequently, no less than 400 types of occupations are classified in this industry, among which are such curious-sounding titles as teeth knocker-out, belly-ripper and toe-breaker.

An indication of the job structure can be seen in the following illustration:

Out of every hundred employees in this industry:

- 65 are production workers
- 24 are professional and clerical workers
- 5 are maintenance and repairmen
- 4 are sales workers
- 2 are service workers

The largest group of employees therefore, is those engaged in work directly related to the production of the finished product. On the whole, this

work is of a simple repetitive nature and does not require great skill. The most important production occupation on the basis of numbers, is that of Butcher and Meat Cutter, as 21 of every 65 production workers are engaged in this type of work. Other important production jobs are slaughterers, hide trimmers, curers, packers, sausage makers and lard makers. Unskilled labourers constitute about 12 of every 65 workers.

Among the professional and clerical workers are included a staff of highly qualified buyers and a group of chemists who do the analytical work, testing and improving meat quality.

Women are not employed to any great extent in normal times except on the office and clerical staff. In 1939, only about one tenth of the employees were female workers. During the war, however, the proportion rose until, in 1944, they constituted almost one-quarter of the labour force. This proportion has decreased since the end of the war and at April, 1946, women comprised slightly more than one-fifth of the total number of employees.

Unionization

The extent of unionization of the meat products industry is small when compared to that of other industries. Reported union membership for the year 1945 shows that approximately 8,200 workers, or 29 per cent of all employees were union members. This percentage is small compared to the 50 per cent unionization among mine and quarry workers or the 60 per cent figure for textile industry, to quote only two examples.

Considerable advancement has taken place since the beginning of the war. The largest union at present is the United Packing-house Workers of America, (CCL - CIO), which has a membership of approximately 5,000. This union began organizing in Canada in 1940 as the Packinghouse Workers Organizing Committee, the name of its parent organization in the States. During 1945, several small federal unions united to form the other large union in the industry, the Packinghouse Butchers and Allied Food Workers Union of Canada, (T.L.C.), which has a membership of about 3,000.

In the light of these and other pertinent facts on the subject, the following conclusions are not out of order. First, that the formation of these two large unions composed of local unions previously directly chartered by the T.L.C. or the C.C.L., follows the customary pattern of union development and will allow more effective organization of the workers in the meat packing industry. Secondly, the extent of unionization in the industry is increasing and will continue to increase in the immediate future. Recent statements of aims by officials of the unions concerned corroborate this latter viewpoint and indicate that an intensive drive for new members, especially in Quebec, is forthcoming.

Strikes

Due chiefly to one major walkout, the time-loss resulting from strikes in the meat packing industry was considerably larger in 1945 than in the previous year. Last year, there were 4 strikes involving 7,221 workers, with a time-loss of 33,107 man-working days. In 1944, the comparable figures were 3 strikes with 905 workers involved and a 605 day time-loss.

The one big strike in 1945 began when the Canada Packers Toronto plant went on strike on July 17, demanding the dismissal of a worker. suspended from union

membership. Workers in plants in eight other cities, all under the Packinghouse Workers of America, quit work in sympathy with the Toronto strike, making a total of 7,025 workers affected and causing a time-loss of 32,550 man-working days. The strike was settled through provincial conciliation, on August 3, in favour of the employer.

No strikes have occurred among packinghouse workers in the first six months of 1946, but there is a possibility that this condition may not persist. At the recent joint meeting of the two large packinghouse unions, it was agreed that new demands, notably for wage boosts and a 40 hour week, would be made.

Seasonality in Meat Products

Meat packers are governed in their production activities by current supplies of animals which are ready to be slaughtered. The fact that animal products are perishable forces their early sale. This condition renders sales, like production, a fluctuating quantity.

The seasonal indexes on the accompanying chart, which represent the percentage deviations from the moving average, show a decline from January until April, a rise from May to August, a slight drop in September and then a gradual rise until the end of the year. These variations are explainable in terms of meat production and consumption which are in turn influenced by climate. From October until January the consumption of meat is much heavier than during the summer and supply is at a maximum. In spring, the supply declines because of the breeding period during which slaughtering is necessarily curtailed. The relatively low position during the summer arises from two causes. First, there is a smaller consumption of meat and second, the young animals have not yet attained sufficient maturity to be marketable as first class meat.

The seasonal pattern remained fairly stable from 1933 to 1946 with a somewhat wider amplitude after 1942. The sharp decline from February to July in 1945 may be explained by the curtailment in hog production, and to a lesser extent by labour shortage.

Recently, the meat packers have approached the problem of regularizing seasonality in at least two new ways. One aid is the "fast freezing" process which eliminates the necessity of quick marketing and is of particular benefit in increasing summer sales. Secondly, low sales volumes at different periods of the year can be boosted by concentrating on products and types of meat which are more popular at that time. Methods of greater advertising and more attractive packaging are also employed.

Cyclical Aspects

The slaughtering and meat packing industry produces a basic foodstuff and is dependent for its supply of raw materials on agricultural production. Under these conditions, the elasticities of both demand and supply are low. Consumption of meat continues at fairly stable level even though prices may change. The consumer will cut down on all other items before he will reduce his consumption of meat and other essential foods. In conjunction with this low elasticity of demand, the low elasticity of supply causes violent price fluctuations.

The length of the production period — the "cattle cycle" is a two to three year period — is such that there is a time lag between price changes and production shifts. This slow reaction to price movements may lead to a series of

self-perpetuating price fluctuations. The conditions of marketing and the productive organization intensify this condition. The livestock supply depends on innumerable small farmers and a big drop in price is required before these producers will make changes in the types or volume of livestock being raised. Frequently the farmer has no alternative but to continue to raise the small animals, even to the extent of attempting to produce more when prices are low in order to keep his cash income at the same level. Accordingly, excess supply may lead to further excess.

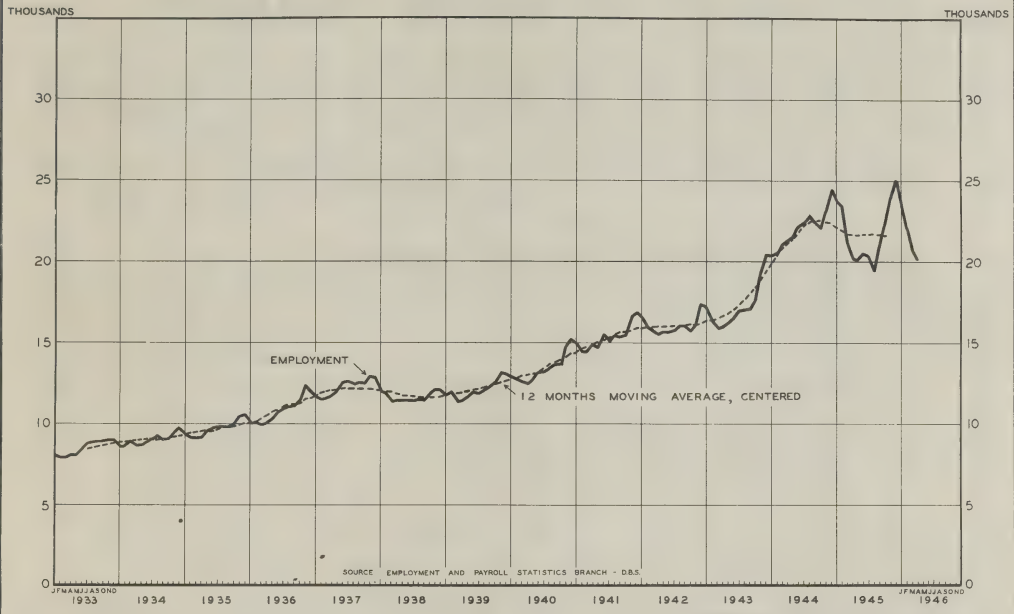
Grain prices affect the farmers decision on the production of livestock. Low grain prices may lead him to feed the grain to the stock or to increase the number of livestock he has to make up for the money deficit. With high prices for grain, as is the case now, the farmer will concentrate on his cereals rather than on his stock.

The close similarity between the gross value of meat production compared to the gross value of all manufacturing production on the accompanying chart, would seem to suggest that the two respond in the same manner to the general business cycle. Further study reveals, however, in support of the conclusions reached in the above paragraphs, that the fluctuations in gross value of meat production are due more to the price factor than to variations in the physical volume of business. In all manufacturing, on the other hand, shifts in production value reflect physical volume changes to a greater extent, and price movements to a lesser extent, than does the meat products industry. The following table lists some pertinent statistics in support of this thesis:

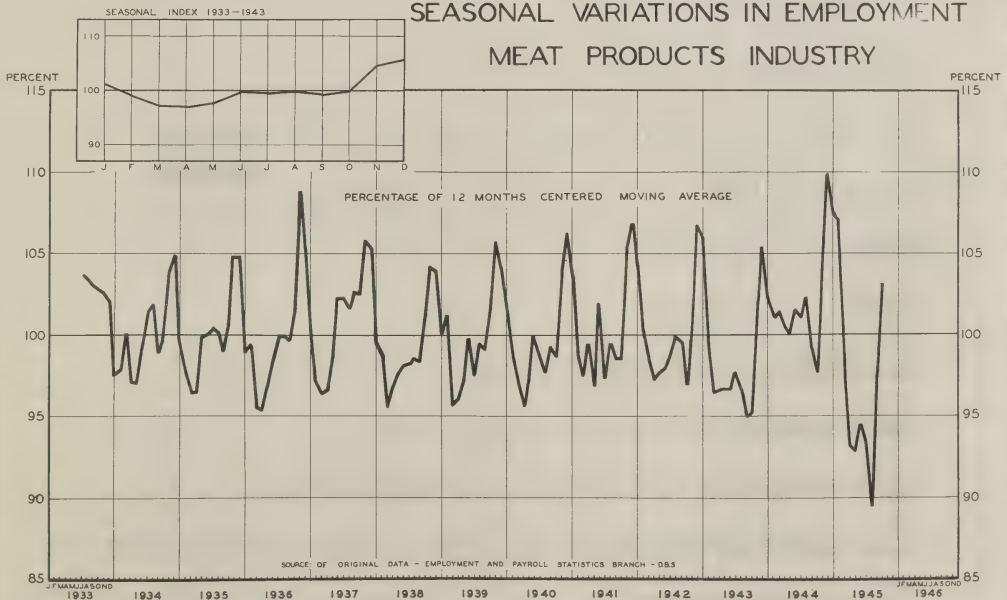
Table V—Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices and Physical Volume of Production, 1929-46

1939=100					
Year	Wholesale Meat Prices	Wholesale Livestock Prices	General Index of Wholesale Prices	Physical Volume of Meat Production	Physical Volume of Business
1929.....	139.3	143.5	126.8	—	102.5
1930.....	131.0	128.6	114.9	—	89.5
1931.....	91.4	87.8	95.6	65.9	76.4
1932.....	67.5	70.7	88.5	65.7	64.3
1933.....	66.4	63.9	89.0	71.7	65.1
1934.....	85.8	80.1	95.0	79.0	86.3
1935.....	89.2	91.7	95.6	79.3	83.7
1936.....	88.4	83.7	98.9	94.0	91.6
1937.....	98.3	105.4	112.2	100.7	100.2
1938.....	100.1	94.6	104.2	96.0	92.2
1939.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1940.....	101.0	109.2	110.0	123.4	116.2
1941.....	120.0	127.0	119.4	140.9	154.3
1942.....	134.1	150.9	126.8	149.1	189.1
1943.....	142.5	168.7	132.6	163.0	220.6
1944.....	143.5	166.7	135.9	195.9	—
1945.....	145.5	170.8	137.4	—	—
April, 1946.....	152.5	180.5	143.5	—	—

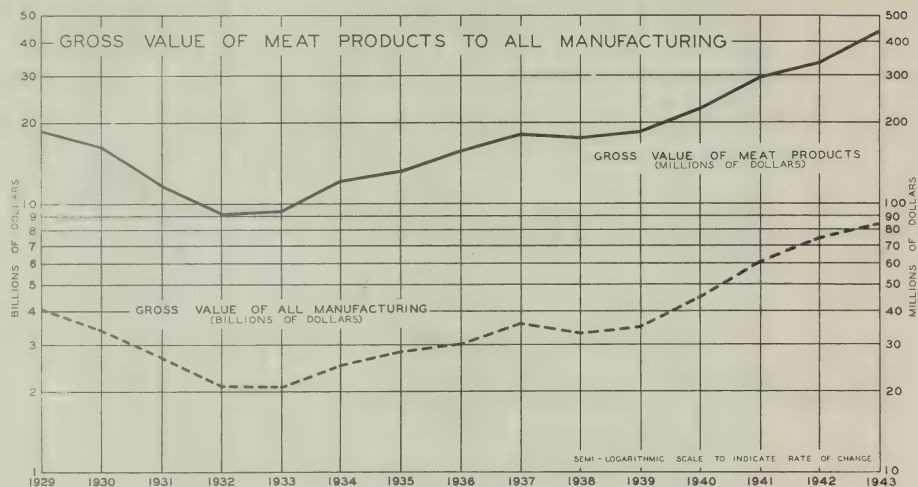
MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT AND 12 MONTHS MOVING AVERAGE MEAT PRODUCTS INDUSTRY



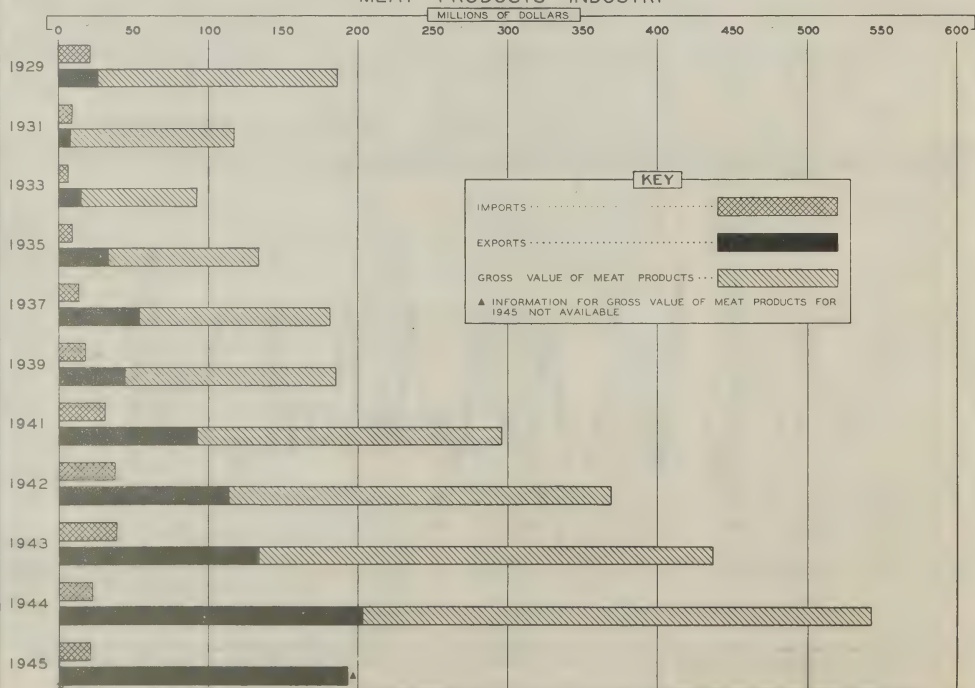
SEASONAL VARIATIONS IN EMPLOYMENT MEAT PRODUCTS INDUSTRY



GROSS VALUE, EXPORTS AND IMPORTS MEAT PRODUCTS INDUSTRY



EXPORTS AND IMPORTS TO GROSS VALUE OF PRODUCTION MEAT PRODUCTS INDUSTRY



Imports

The value of Canada's imports of meat products, while not as large as the comparable figure for exports, none the less represents a considerable sum. In 1939, for instance, almost 18 million dollars worth of meat products were brought into this country. It follows that these products were of goods which cannot be produced and distributed so cheaply here. Until 1939, very little meat was brought in. The most important imports were hides, fats and oils for the manufacture of soap, and wool in the grease. From 1941-43, increasing quantities of chilled fresh beef, pork, mutton and meat extracts were imported. The Argentine, Australia and New Zealand, and the United States are the principal countries from which we obtain these products.

Exports

In pre-war years, the bulk of Canada's exports went to the United Kingdom and the remainder to the United States. Of the \$54.1 millions of meat products exported in 1937, 76 per cent went to the U.K. and 17 per cent to the U.S.A. In that year, as in every year, the principal items of export were bacon, hams, shoulders and sides. The cyclical trend of exports since 1929 shows some major deviations which reflect not only general economic conditions but also the political factor, in trade agreements. From the low point of the period, 1931, to 1937, the percentage of exports to total production went up 23 points, which was greater than the wartime increase shown in Table VI. A slump took place during the years 1938 and 1939,

As can be seen in the accompanying table, the value of Canada's meat exports more than quadrupled during the war. Most of these increased shipments went to the U.K., with the U.S. receiving an increasingly smaller proportion of the total. Indications are that the volume of export trade has started a downward movement. For the first four months of 1946, the value of meat exports was \$60.1 millions, compared to the \$74.1 for the same period in 1945. A reversion of exports back to the 1939 level would entail a drop of \$150 millions, which would be a severe blow to Canada's favourable balance of trade.

Table VI--Total Value of Imports and Exports in the Meat Packing Industry for Selected Years 1929-45, (in Thousands)

(Source: DBS and External Trade Branch, Department of Trade and Commerce)

Year	Value of Products Sold	Imports	Exports	Percentage Exports to Total Value of Products Sold
1929.....	185,843	20,784	26,223	14.1
1931.....	117,597	8,240	7,980	6.8
1933.....	92,366	6,491	15,084	16.3
1935.....	133,379	8,817	33,424	25.1
1937.....	181,419	13,733	54,114	29.8
1939.....	185,196	17,802	44,300	23.9
1941.....	296,240	30,998	92,461	31.2
1942.....	369,047	37,736	114,001	30.9
1943.....	437,229	39,596 (2)	134,356	30.7
1944.....	543,034	22,719	203,565	37.5
1945.....	— (1)	21,558 (2)	193,644	—

(1) No figure available.

(2) Estimate only.

Wages, Prices, and Production Costs, 1939-44

As has already been outlined in the section on wage rates, employment in the meat products industry did not rise as rapidly during the war as did the gross value of production. Consequently, the relative cost of salaries and wages in the industry dropped in these years. Where did this increased revenue go?

The rise in wholesale livestock prices, which was greater than that of either meat or wholesale prices in general, meant that a larger share of the packer's income was spent for raw materials. While it would seem that the farmer was the prime benefactor here, the somewhat depressed condition of pre-war livestock prices should be taken into consideration. Taxes were also a great deal higher. To trace the movements of profits in these years, it would be necessary to compute the net income for the whole industry and from this deduct taxes, wartime inventory reserves and all other expense items. This has been done for four of the largest firms in the industry and the results tabulated in Table VII. From these statistics, it can be seen that the net income available to stockholders rose at approximately the same rate as the index of money wages from 1939-44. With the revisions in taxation which have taken place during 1945-46 and the recent price adjustments on entirely new set of factors affecting the distribution of gains obscures the war-time picture.

Table VII—Some Strategic Factors in the Meat Products Industry 1939-44

Year	Percentage Salaries and Wages to Gross Value of Production		Percentage Cost of Materials to Gross Value of Production		Net Income Available to Stockholders (1)
	Meat Prod.	All Mfg.	Meat Prod.	All Mfg.	1939-100
1939.....	9.2	21.2	83.5	52.8	100.0
1940.....	8.5	20.3	83.8	54.1	88.0
1941.....	7.8	20.8	85.6	54.3	127.7
1942.....	7.2	22.3	84.1	53.4	107.2
1943.....	6.9	22.9	87.4	53.4	105.2
1944.....	7.1	—	84.4	—	126.0

(1) Four selected Firms.

Future Prospects

From 1939 to 1945, the meat products industry was producing at three times its pre-war capacity. The vital question is, how much of this war-time expansion will persist?

The export section of the industry expanded at the fastest rate. The present favourable position of the Canadian producer in the British and European markets will be dampened with the return to normal conditions. Due chiefly to geographical and climatic disadvantages, Canada's export position will be extremely vulnerable. This factor, together with such others as trade agreements, government subsidies and the British consumer's preference for Danish products will fix the level of postwar exports. This figure will certainly be below the level of the last few years.

While exports rose at a faster rate, the absolute value of the increase in production for domestic use was greater than that of exports. Should a return to the pre-war level of production occur, a loss of \$200 millions in sales would result. Per capita civilian consumption went up 38 per cent from 1939-44 and domestic sales rose 147 per cent in value. The main reason for the rise in production for domestic use was the presence of a large percentage of the population in the armed forces. The return of these men to civilian life should therefore entail a drop in all over per capita consumption. While a high level of consumer income could do much to offset a reversion to the 1939 situation, a drop in domestic consumption is inevitable.

To sum up, both exports and domestic consumption should stay well above their 1939 level, but will still be considerably less than the wartime peak. As employment does not vary proportionately to production changes, the repercussions in this sector of the industry will be less severe.

PART III

AREA ANALYSIS

Section 1:—A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

The evaluation of the seriousness of unemployment in any area can be based upon the long or short term prospects of the local labour market. If the particular labour market is being studied from the point of view of its long term prospects, then the interpretation must be based in a large part on qualitative factors. If, however, the labour market in any area is being assessed solely on the basis of its current characteristics and its short term prospects, then the interpretation can be based almost entirely on quantitative data. It must be emphasized that it is the quantitative type of evaluation which is employed in the rating of each area of this section. More detailed and long term evaluation is attempted in the descriptive section of each area study.

The selection of a satisfactory measure is thus the first problem in classifying the relative seriousness of unemployment in different labour market areas. The number of unemployed is not alone a satisfactory measure, as the volume of unemployment must be related to some figure which measures the size of the area. This figure might be the population of the area, the number in the local labour force, or the numbers that are employed in the area. Since labour force figures, which provide the most satisfactory measure, are at present unobtainable, an estimate of employment (total wage and salary workers) is used. It should be noted that this is a more variable quantity than the total labour force, emphasizing short-term changes to a relatively high degree.

The second and more difficult problem is that of distinguishing various ranges of unemployment. Some unemployment is unavoidable in a dynamic economy as workers move from one job to another, as those leaving school fit themselves into their vocations, as older workers slowly withdraw from the labour force, and as seasonal workers shift to new jobs. An economy in which even "full employment" has been reached will necessarily have some unemployment. During 1943 and 1944, Canada more than achieved full employment. If the ratios are computed for June 1 of each of these years, it is found that there were 27 and 22 workers out of work per 1,000 employed at each of those dates respectively. However, this was a period when unemployment was at an even lower level than that existing at even the most prosperous periods of peacetime employment. Many workers had jobs when under less abnormal conditions they would have been unemployed or on the fringe of employability. Therefore, it does not seem unreasonable to define a ratio of 50 or less unemployed per 1,000 employed workers as the level of unemployment which would exist under satisfactory employment conditions.

Evaluation of other levels of unemployment can proceed on the basis of comparison with the past. At June 2, 1941, there were 280,000 unemployed in Canada, according to the results of the Decennial Census. If the above-mentioned ratio is computed for this period, a figure of 113 is obtained, suggesting that a second suitable range might be from 50 to 150.

Estimates of unemployment in Canada at June 1, 1939, range from 550,000 to 650,000. Ratios, computed on the basis of these figures, range from 175 to 303. It is reasonable, therefore, to describe a more serious level of unemployment as that indicated by ratios ranging from 150 to 300.

Finally, all ratios above 300 can be viewed as a category of a still more serious nature. The schedules of the 1931 Decennial Census did not have a question which would segregate all those between 14 and 20 years of age who were seeking work for the first time but had not yet found a job. If, however, this group can be estimated as only slightly smaller than that which existed in 1941, an estimate of unemployment as at June 1, 1931, of 600,000 is obtained. For that date the ratio would be 310. During the years following 1931, unemployment increased, and thus the ratio would also become greater. All ratios over 300, therefore, can be taken as indicating levels of unemployment comparable to those that existed in the early Thirties.

In summary, the categories outlined above are as follows:

Group I—Areas in which over 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties".

Group II—Areas in which between 150 and 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III—Areas in which 50 to 150 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV—Areas in which under 50 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Slight, that is, in general it is that which would exist under conditions of full employment according to the experience of the years 1943 and 1944.

It should be emphasized that this measure is only a simple and crude means of evaluating short-term relative levels of unemployment from area to area, and should therefore only be depended upon to indicate in general where more detailed investigation is necessary.

Accompanying each individual area study in the remainder of this section is a table presenting selected data of labour demand and supply. For purpose of comparison a similar table for Canada as a whole is shown below:

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	111,445	242,714	18.8	93.3	51.1	81,207	33.5	25.3
May 30/46	114,108	210,404	19.1	93.9	47.0	72,370	34.4	25.1
June 27/46	120,819	178,904	21.1	91.8	Employment Estimate - 2,766,600			

On the following page is presented a table which shows the group rating for each area as at June 27, 1946, with comparable ratings for April 11, 1946 and May 16, 1946. The page number of each area study is also shown in the table to facilitate reference.

The figure accompanying the title of each area analysed in the remainder of this section from (pages 65 to 86 inclusive) represents the number unemployed per 1,000 employed workers in each area.

Index to Areas Analyzed in this Section with Comparable
Ratings for Two Selected Previous Dates

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		April 11, 1946	May 16, 1946	June 27, 1946
65	Valleyfield.....	II	II	I
65	New Glasgow and Pictou.....	I	I	I
66	Collingwood.....	I	I	II
66	Oshawa.....	I	I	II
67	Amherst.....	I	II	II
67	Sydney (a).....	II	II	II
68	Quebec (b).....	II	II	II
69	Fort Erie.....	I	I	II
69	Sorel.....	I	II	III
70	Fort William and Port Arthur.....	II	II	III
70	Vancouver (c).....	III	III	III
71	Welland.....	III	III	III
71	Chicoutimi.....	II	II	III
72	Windsor.....	II	III	III
73	Hull.....	III	III	III
73	Winnipeg.....	III	III	III
74	Saint John.....	III	III	III
74	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
75	Shawinigan Falls.....	II	III	III
75	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
76	Calgary (d).....	III	III	III
76	St. Catharines.....	III	III	III
77	Hamilton.....	III	III	III
77	Ste. Therese.....	II	III	III
78	Victoria.....	III	III	III
78	Sudbury.....	III	III	III
79	Trail.....	III	III	III
79	Halifax.....	III	IV	III
80	Edmonton.....	III	III	IV
80	Saskatoon.....	III	IV	IV
81	Montreal (e).....	III	III	IV
81	Regina.....	III	III	IV
82	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
82	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
83	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
83	Niagara Falls.....	III	IV	IV
84	London.....	IV	IV	IV
84	Sault Ste Marie.....	IV	IV	IV
85	Toronto (f).....	IV	IV	IV
85	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
86	Kitchener - Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV

(a) Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.

(b) Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

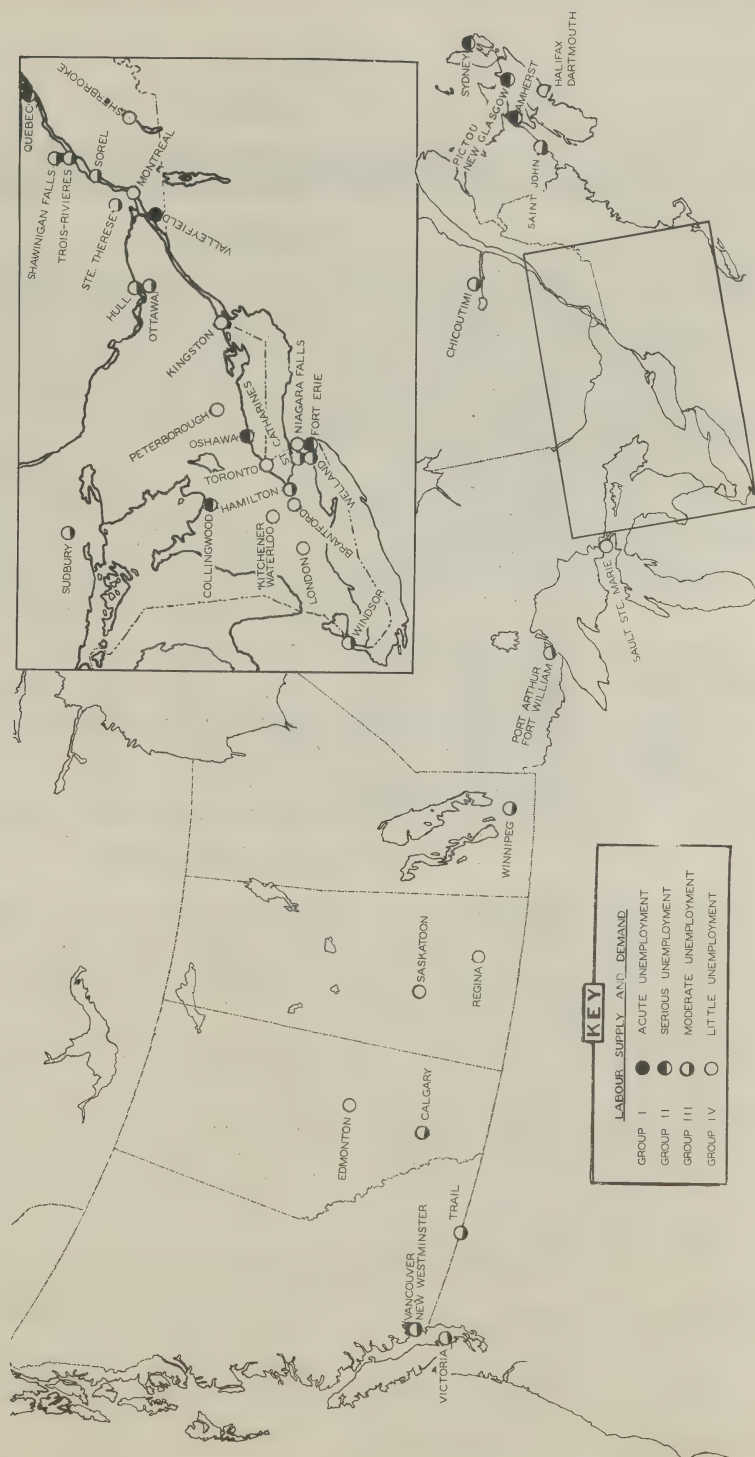
(c) Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

(d) Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

(e) Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Point-aux-Trembles, St. Paul l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

(f) Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT JUNE 27, 1946



GROUP I

Areas in Which Unemployment is Acute
(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, Over 300 are Unemployed)

VALLEYFIELD—445

Situation becoming worse—A hard core of unemployment persists in Valleyfield resulting from the drastic decline of explosives manufacturing at the end of the war. Expansion in textiles, Valleyfield's most important peace-time industry, has not been sufficient to absorb the large number of displaced war workers. The problem is complicated by the fact that Defence Industries Ltd., (explosives manufacturing) employed a high percentage of male workers, whereas job opportunities in the textile industry are largely for women. At the present time, Montreal Cottons Ltd., is closed down because of the textile strike, with 3,000 workers idle. The fact that many of these are seeking temporary work aggravates the acute unemployment situation. Most numerous among male unemployed are the following: skilled and semi-skilled textile workers, carpenters, plumbers, truck drivers, and unskilled workers. Female applicants are for the most part textile workers, both skilled and unskilled.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	284	1,173	10.2	91.4	56.6	153	13.0	9.5
May 30/46	333	864	12.5	97.6	65.4	154	17.8	11.2
June 27/46	354	2,714	28.9	—	Employment Estimate - 6,100			

NEW GLASGOW - PICTOU—301

Situation stable—The collapse of employment in munitions, and the overall decline in the iron and steel industry have been the major factors contributing to the large-scale labour surplus in this area. The Eastern Car Company Ltd., is nearing the completion of the Belgian order, and as each department finishes its section of the work, men are laid-off. To date, 500 men have been released and in another week 200 more will be affected. Work on the next order will commence as soon as materials become available, but the working force will be much smaller. Other manufacturing plants in the district are operating on a much reduced scale, because of the shortage of steel. Many construction projects have commenced despite material shortages. The employment level in the coal mining industry has remained constant for the last several months. Demand is virtually nil for the hundreds of workers available. Unplaced male applicants are numerous in nearly all occupational categories but most of them are unskilled workers, metalworkers, truck drivers, and carpenters. Many female clerical, and sales workers are idle with virtually no demand.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	92	2,843	9.2	98.3	58.6	1,169	41.1	36.3
May 30/46	59	2,650	9.3	99.9	38.0	1,207	45.5	41.2
June 27/46	63	2,576	9.0	—	Employment Estimate - 8,600			

GROUP II

Areas in Which Unemployment is Serious

(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, From 150 to 300 Are Unemployed)

COLLINGWOOD - 280

Situation improving—War employment in Collingwood was chiefly associated with shipbuilding, (Collingwood Shipyards Ltd.), and aircraft manufacturing, (Clyde Aircraft Manufacturing Company Ltd.). After V.J. Day, Clyde Aircraft closed down and employment in the shipyards was drastically reduced. Unemployment remained at a serious level throughout the winter months, but decreased progressively during April, May and June. At the present time, Collingwood Shipyards Ltd. is more active than it has been for the past six months. Several new repair jobs are already underway, and the construction of two oil tankers will commence as soon as the required steel can be obtained. A steadily increasing demand for help is evident in the local canning factories. Twinlaw Manufacturing Company and Globe Plywoods Ltd. also plan to increase their staff in the near future. Among male job seekers, skilled and semi-skilled metalworkers and labourers are most numerous. In the female labour field there is a surplus of clerical workers, metal workers, and unskilled factory workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	49	737	19.5	99.9	84.2	200	27.5	24.6
May 30/46	51	519	14.6	99.8	92.7	126	24.3	19.8
June 27/46	57	308	17.2	-	Employment Estimate - 1,100			

OSHAWA - 214

Situation improving—Employment in Oshawa is chiefly associated with the automobile industry. General Motors of Canada Ltd. is the largest single employer of labour, and, in addition, there are a large number of "feeder plants" in the Oshawa area whose employment is largely dependent on production in the General Motors Plant. The post-war period in Oshawa has been a difficult one. The recent series of strikes, both in Canada and in the United States, adversely affected employment in the automobile industry. The latest set-back has been the strike of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company employees. Field reports indicate that, because of their limited reserve stock of rubber, General Motors will be forced to lay-off a large number of employees unless the strike is settled in the near future. At present, heaviest male labour surpluses are in the clerical, metalworking, and unskilled labour groups. Female applicants are most numerous in the clerical and unskilled categories.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	%Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	568	5,014	33.4	97.5	44.1	1,362	27.2	21.7
May 30/46	400	3,854	40.7	97.8	42.9	891	23.1	20.2
June 30/46	627	2,594	48.9	-	Employment Estimate - 12,100			

AMHERST - 197

Situation improving—A huge expansion in war employment took place without any substantial migration into this locality, since the wartime labour force was largely recruited from the substantial pool of unemployed, students, married women, own account and unpaid workers. The employment situation has deteriorated markedly since V-J Day, however, and is beginning to approximate Amherst's pre war condition when the unemployment problem was one of the most intractable in the Dominion. The Robb Engineering Works has reduced employment by about 50 per cent since December 1942. The Irving Oil Company has hired 60 carpenters and labourers and will employ about 100 men as long as weather conditions permit. Material shortages are delaying production in the textile, and leather industries. Demand for male labour is very light; most of the applicants are unskilled workers, metalworkers, truck drivers, construction workers, clerical, and sales workers. There are only 3 vacancies for the 212 female applicants, most of whom are textile workers, clerical, and sales workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	92	1,162	19.2	94.6	42.5	480	41.3	36.3
May 30/46	52	951	21.8	97.0	40.7	411	43.2	33.6
June 27/46	73	671	26.2	—	Employment Estimate - 3,400			

SYDNEY - 191

Situation improving—An acute labour surplus has arisen in this region due to a sharp decline in the shipbuilding industry, together with the entrance of many veterans into the labour market. The situation is almost equivalent to the condition of chronic unemployment existing before the war. The Dominion Steel and Coal Company has the advantage of integrated control over the primary industries in Sydney. All mines are working steadily and two hundred skilled miners are still required, although it is expected that the apprenticeship classes which recently began will help to alleviate this shortage. The Sydney Steel Plant is busy; most of the men laid-off temporarily last month have been rehired. All fish plants could use additional help. Local lumbering operations are brisk, and 450 men have been sent to Maine to work in the woods. Many men are being hired daily for work on local highways. Most of the male applicants are unskilled workers, truck drivers, construction workers, and "white collar" workers. There are very few vacancies for the many female clerical, and sales workers available.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	529	5,224	11.4	97.8	32.7	2,651	50.7	45.1
May 30/46	430	4,559	11.5	98.1	28.7	2,482	54.4	47.9
June 27/46	374	4,019	12.8	—	Employment Estimate - 21,000			

QUEBEC - 157

Situation improving -- Unemployment in Quebec city now is easing slightly. It resulted from the postwar collapse of munitions and shipbuilding. The improved situation stems from mainly seasonal expansion in logging, construction, agriculture, and the tourist trade. In the logging industry, numerous river drivers are required and there is a strong demand for wood cutters. Although construction materials are still very scarce, new building projects are continually being started. Unskilled construction workers are plentiful, but in contrast, specialized labour is in short supply. Demand for farm labour increases as the spring season advances and placements have been frequent. Demand for female service workers (waitresses, hairdressers, etc.), under the stimulus of increased tourist traffic, is growing. Applicants are plentiful, but in the majority of cases these women have had only war factory experience, and lack the training necessary for peace-time jobs.

Item	July 1946	June 1946	May 1946	June 1945
Jobs: (1) Unfilled vacs. at first of month.....	1,650	845	1,631	2,053
(2) Vacs. notified during month.....	-	2,377	3,053	2,861
(3) Total jobs open during month.....	-	4,074	4,684	4,914
\$ Filled by referral.....	-	24.4	23.8	57.4
\$ Filled without referral.....	-	81.1	87.4	--
Workers: (1) A. Unplaced apps. at first of month....	10,500	13,210	14,922	4,776
\$ Female.....	37.0	33.9	40.0	50.1
\$ Veterans.....	-	17.7	15.9	--
\$ Vets. unplaced 15 days or more..	-	14.3	12.9	--
B. Unref. apps. at first of month.....	10,426	13,068	11,734	--
Claimants.....	8,526	10,530	--	--
\$ under 20 years.....	9.5	9.2	--	--
\$ 20 - 45 "	76.1	75.8	--	--
\$ 46 - 60 "	11.3	10.6	--	--
\$ over 60 "	3.1	4.4	--	--
Non-claimants.....	1,898	2,538	--	--
\$ under 20 years.....	17.4	14.1	--	--
\$ 20 - 45 "	75.6	75.3	--	--
\$ 46 - 60 "	6.0	8.1	--	--
\$ over 60 "	1.0	2.5	--	--
(2) Apps. registered during month.....	-	3,938	3,912	5,013
(3) Total workers available during month...	-	17,156	18,734	9,789
\$ Referred.....	-	12.0	14.2	47.8
Employment: (1) Wage & salary workers (1st of month)	65,700	67,100	68,800	86,400
(2) Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	82.17	82.12
Construction: (1) Value of building permits (000's).	-	-	8538	8333

FORT ERIE - 157

Situation improving—This area is predominately a transport and tourist centre. During the war, major expansion in manufacturing occurred in the aircraft industry. Fleet Aircraft employed 2,888 workers in December, 1943. Post-war displacement in this plant was very great. The remaining unemployed number more than half the total labour force, although the majority of war workers have left Fort Erie. Latterly, conditions have shown a marked improvement. Fleet Aircraft is gradually expanding, and construction and the tourist trade show increased activity. During the past two months, the number of persons claiming Unemployment Insurance, including ex-servicemen, dropped over 400, leaving 188 still on claim as at June 1, 1946. Current job openings of which about 60 per cent are for women, are chiefly for workers in the sales, service and unskilled groups. There is still a shortage of skilled construction workers, of which carpenters are in particularly short supply.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	%Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	28	412	50.0	100.0	101.0	82	19.9	18.7
May 30/46	145	286	53.8	100.0	76.6	51	17.8	16.8
June 27/46	274	220	53.6	-	Employment Estimate - 1,400			

GROUP III

Areas in Which Unemployment is Moderate

(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, From 50 - 150 are Unemployed)

SOREL - 137

Situation improving—After V-J Day severe lay-offs occurred both in Sorel Industries Ltd., and in Marine Industries Ltd. (shipbuilding). In the long run however, the latter will be on a much firmer footing than the former. Employment in shipbuilding will reach 50 per cent of peak war strength, eventually. At the first of this month, uncertainty in the supply of materials caused repercussions on employment stability in Marine Industries Ltd. It prevented the company from achieving its employment goal of 3,000 workers. However, employment in the shipbuilding industry is increasing as rapidly as possible. Many of the men unemployed in Sorel are skilled and semi-skilled workers. As at June 20, 1946 machinists, 207 other metalworkers, and 64 electricians were idle. The only demand was for six moulders in those groups. There are still 159 unskilled workers idle, and demand for approximately 75 "white collar" workers is nil. There are only 55 vacancies, (46 for service workers), for the 212 unplaced female workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	%Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	177	1,860	11.8	99.9	87.8	73	3.9	3.6
May 30/46	113	1,405	15.0	98.3	70.5	63	4.5	4.1
June 27/46	72	970	18.9	-	Employment Estimate - 7,100			

FORT WILLIAM AND PORT ARTHUR - 133

Situation improving—Mass lay-offs in the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company, and in the Canadian Car and Foundry Company have been the principal cause of the unemployment in this area. Shipbuilding activity is at a very low ebb, but the Canada Car and Foundry Company, now producing buses, has rebuilt its establishment up to 1,200 men from a low of about 200 men at February 1, 1946. The Canadian Seamen's Union strike is curtailing shipping from this port. This strike is holding back operations in several industries. However, 250 seamen are expected to return to work on June 25. Marathon Pulp and Paper Mill will begin production soon; orders are in clearance for all types of labour. District gold mines urgently need 150 miners, but lack of living accommodation is the main barrier to placements. Demand for woodsmen is very heavy. It is estimated that 3,000 men will be required by November. Female applicants, who are very numerous, are predominantly clerical, and sales workers. Most of the men unplaced at present are unskilled workers, truck drivers, metalworkers, clerical and protective workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
Apr. 30/46	3,099	4,321	31.7	91.2	59.0	1,139	26.4	13.9
May 30/46	4,154	3,496	35.6	91.4	57.7	841	24.1	14.8
June 27/46	5,516	3,226	37.5	-	Employment Estimate - 24,300			

VANCOUVER - 111

Situation stable—Vancouver was not highly industrialized before the war, consequently, there were no "reception" industries for the tremendous numbers of workers released from war-created jobs in the shipbuilding and aircraft industries. As a result, thousands of shipyard and aircraft workers have remained unplaced, for months. No longer, is there any requirement for their limited wartime skills. However, total employment is still higher than in May 1941, and the future outlook is favorable. The recent lumber strike, and the current foundry dispute, are obscuring the normal trend and are curtailing activity in the shipbuilding industry. The foundry strike is adversely affecting various metal-using plants also. Orders for miners have decreased until the threat of a strike is passed. The large demand for construction workers still exists despite material shortages which have been aggravated by the recent lumber strike. There is a fair demand for both male and female workers in the trade and service industries, but the generally low wage rate of these jobs renders them unattractive to applicants. Most of the male applicants are unskilled workers, other skilled and semi-skilled workers, metalworkers, clerical, sales and service workers. Most of the female applicants are other skilled and semi-skilled, sales and clerical workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	5,205	22,106	18.4	94.4	49.9	7,336	33.2	24.4
May 30/46	4,442	20,713	16.2	94.3	47.3	7,943	38.3	30.9
June 27/46	5,356	20,415	15.7	-	Employment Estimate - 183,600			

WELLAND - 111

Situation improving—The primary cause of unemployment in the Welland - Port Robinson area after V-J Day was the falling off of the alloy steels and chemicals industries, which had been subject to war-time expansion. In addition, Welland, which is well diversified industrially, attracted a large number of workers from nearby centres where the collapse of war-industry had left few alternative employment opportunities. In spite of current shortages of steel and coal, employment in the alloy steel industry is maintaining a consistent level. There is an increasing demand for skilled men and labourers throughout the industry. Woods Manufacturing Company, (manufacturers of jute cotton bags, tents and canvas goods), temporarily suspended operations on June 3 because of a wage dispute involving 40 spinners. In the male labour field, there is a marked shortage of skilled textile workers, construction labourers, and unskilled workers. Female applicants greatly exceed vacancies. The following types of workers are most numerous: clerical workers, semi-skilled factory workers, and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	244	1,372	52.1	97.3	57.4	178	13.0	6.7
May 30/46	378	1,106	56.6	95.8	62.5	155	14.0	7.4
June 27/46	371	1,083	50.6	-	Employment Estimate - 9,800			

CHICOUTIMI - 104

Situation improving—The initial cause of unemployment in the Chicoutimi - Arvida area was the post-war employment decline in the aluminum industry. Between February 1, 1943 and February 1, 1946 employment in the Aluminum Company of Canada plant at Arvida was reduced by approximately 8,000. Lay-offs took place gradually, and the movement of discharged war workers from the district occurred rapidly. However, in relation to the total labour force, a sizeable surplus of labour still exists in Chicoutimi. Local building contractors report a fairly busy season, and placements in the construction industry since April last have resulted in a 50 per cent decrease in the number of Unemployment Insurance claimants. For males, vacancies outnumber applicants by approximately 2 to 1. The demand is chiefly for loggers and unskilled construction workers. Although a number of domestic servants are required, few other jobs for women are offering.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	1,155	1,329	11.3	96.8	64.5	109	8.2	6.4
May 30/46	1,299	731	19.3	91.9	65.8	72	9.8	3.0
June 27/46	685	508	22.6	-	Employment Estimate - 4,900			

HULL—90

Situation improving—Employment conditions in the Hull area continue to improve. The number of unplaced applicants will drop considerably during the month of June according to field reports. Although lay-offs have taken place in some industries, the subsequent losses are compensated for by increased employment in other. Canada Packers Ltd., recently released 40 employees and the Canadian International Paper Company reports a temporary lay-off of 30 men. New contracts received by the Hull Iron and Steel Company Limited will permit the rehiring of a number of employees who were laid off following the United States steel strike. International Plywoods Company Ltd., are planning to take on 225 additional employees, and have already secured 25 per cent of these workers. In the male labour field, loggers, hard rock miners, and skilled construction workers are in short supply. Although job seekers outnumber vacancies in the "heavy labour" category, few applicants can meet the physical qualifications specified for this type of work. Female applicants are predominately clerical and unskilled workers, but the majority of job openings are for skilled textile workers, and service workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	486	1,375	11.9	95.3	43.9	534	38.8	29.4
May 30/46	458	1,228	14.4	95.4	50.3	495	40.3	32.9
June 27/46	555	1,054	17.9	—	Employment Estimate - 11,700			

WINNIPEG—80

Situation improving—Drastic lay-offs occurred in the munitions and aircraft industries after the war. The decline in total employment was not severe, however, since war employment was concentrated in the foodstuffs, textile, and secondary iron and steel industries. The number employed in manufacturing is roughly equivalent to the number in non-manufacturing. However, while the former has declined since April 1945, the latter has expanded. Shortage of materials is retarding production in sash and door factories, and in the printing, and textile industries. Construction firms have hired most of the skilled craftsmen. The remaining applicants are either over age or inexperienced. Chiefly because of material or work shortages, separations are fairly high. There is a strong demand for miners and loggers, but the supply of the latter is strictly limited at this time of year. The majority of men still idle are unskilled workers, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, white collar workers, and service workers. Demand is high for female service workers, and unskilled workers. However, many clerical and sales workers are still unplaced.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	3,716	13,831	17.8	93.6	42.2	6,578	47.6	40.3
May 30/46	3,555	12,952	19.3	92.5	31.0	6,052	46.7	39.5
June 27/46	4,148	10,625	23.5	—	Employment Estimate - 132,900			

SAINT JOHN - 78

Situation stable—The current labour surplus springs from the constant post-war decline in shipbuilding as a source of employment together with the present seasonal slump in port activity. However, construction is very active and many truckers and longshoremen are accepting work as labourers. Local fishermen are now starting their spring catch in which fair runs are reported. Prices for fish are very high. There are vacancies for 89 woodsmen but few men desire this type of work in this season. Dealers in the area report a shortage of coal. No change is shown in wholesale and retail trade activity as many commodities are still in short supply. There is a severe shortage of female help, particularly service workers for whom orders are constantly mounting. The majority of the male unemployed are unskilled workers, truck drivers, clerical workers, metalworkers and service workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	685	2,286	5.1	96.5	20.4	1,323	57.9	40.7
May 30/46	860	2,276	6.1	94.6	26.2	1,293	56.8	39.5
June 27/46	913	2,261	5.5	-	Employment Estimate - 28,900			

THREE RIVERS - 77

Situation improving—A sizeable surplus of labour continues to exist in the Three Rivers area. The slump in munitions manufacturing after the war was the primary cause of unemployment. Civilian manufacturing, mainly textiles, pulp and paper has not been adequate to absorb the large number of discharged war-workers. Increased construction activity has somewhat relieved the employment situation. Public Works projects scheduled to take place this summer will provide jobs for approximately 700 men. The pulp and paper industry is stepping up production - the Canadian International Paper Company recently rehired 40 of its former employees and the St. Lawrence Paper Mills Company Limited is taking on additional workers at the rate of 10 to 12 per week. Male applicants outnumber jobs by approximately 20 to 1. Clerical workers, sales workers, skilled and semi-skilled metal workers, truck drivers and unskilled workers comprise the largest groups of unemployed. Female applicants are most numerous in the clerical, sales, skilled textile and unskilled worker groups.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	240	3,547	21.8	97.7	60.1	391	11.0	6.0
May 30/46	242	2,893	24.7	96.3	56.2	360	12.4	8.6
June 27/46	236	2,575	27.9	-	Employment Estimate - 33,600			

SHAWINIGAN FALLS--76

Situation improving—War employment, chiefly in the chemicals and non-ferrous metal groups constituted 78 per cent of total employment in May 1945. Since then employment in the Aluminum Company's plant has declined by over 50 per cent. In contrast, and despite previous expectations, Shawinigan Chemicals Ltd., is maintaining a relatively high level of activity and has become the mainstay of employment in the area. As at June 8, there were 885 applicants, compared with 1,450 applicants at the same date in May. This improvement in the employment situation is largely due to construction activity, which along with activities in other industries, is now being curtailed by shortages of materials. A demand for 300 fruit pickers in the United States has been met. The Empire Shirt Manufacturing Company laid off 300 workers temporarily, because of a shortage of cotton. Similarly, a coal shortage necessitated the Canadian Carborundum Company's release of 75 men. Most of the male applicants are unskilled workers, metal-workers and electricians. Many female unskilled workers, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, clerical, and sales workers are idle. The only demand is for service workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets Unpl. Over 14 Days
April 30/46	17	1,519	21.1	100.0	87.6	92	6.1	3.0
May 30/46	21	1,059	34.7	99.4	91.3	80	7.6	3.6
June 27/46	29	851	33.8	—	Employment Estimate - 11,200			

OTTAWA--63

Situation improving—The level of activity in government is of considerable significance in determining employment conditions in Ottawa, as a large percentage of the working force is directly or indirectly connected with the government. With the consequent lack of industrial diversification and only a limited absolute increase in demand for workers in the Civil Service, the city was incapable of absorbing those male workers who entered the labour market in such large numbers after the war. Between May 16 and June 27 male applicants dropped 16 per cent. Placements were most numerous in the unskilled labour group. In spite of the general tendency to replace married women by veterans wherever possible, demand for female labour continues. The following types of female workers are in particularly short supply: stenographers, typists, domestic servants, waitresses, charwomen, textile workers, finishers (laundry and cleaning), and unskilled workers. Male unemployed include professional, managerial, clerical, and sales workers, truck drivers, and labourers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	2,107	3,983	23.5	95.8	43.8	1,778	44.6	32.8
May 30/46	1,685	3,985	27.8	96.7	39.4	1,651	41.4	31.4
June 27/46	1,683	3,639	30.5	—	Employment Estimate - 58,000			

CALGARY - 63

Situation improving—Calgary, the trade, service, and transportation centre of a large agricultural area, was not hard hit by the cessation of war production. The majority of the war workers were employed in foodstuffs, petroleum products, railway rolling stock, and nitrates manufacturing. Except for the principal iron and steel group, which is small, and the construction industry, hampered by lack of materials, all other industries in Calgary are employing more men than in May 1941. Cattle shipments have increased to a sufficient degree to enable packing plants to resume full production. There is very little labour demand in other manufacturing industries. Demand for men in the construction industry has fallen off considerably, and contractors are greatly concerned about repercussions from the recent British Columbia Loggers' strike. The reserve of materials on hand is sufficient for only ten days operations. The male unemployed comprise many unskilled workers, truck drivers, clerical, sales and service workers. Demand for female labour is high for the small number of domestic workers available. On the other hand, it is low for the many clerical, sales, and unskilled workers employed.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	1,352	4,016	16.1	93.2	34.9	1,932	48.1	34.4
May 30/46	1,399	3,393	12.6	93.2	31.6	1,553	45.8	31.4
June 27/46	1,338	3,086	17.7	-	Employment Estimate - 49,200			

ST. CATHARINES - 59

Situation improving—Industrial diversification was a significant contribution to St. Catharines' rapid reconversion from war to civilian production. The unemployment problem was chiefly the result of an influx of job seekers from other Niagara Peninsula communities where cut backs in war industries caused widespread displacement. Production in local industries is gradually increasing, despite the many handicaps to full scale production, such as shortages of construction materials, lack of steel supplies etc. Shortages of skilled and highly trained men have persisted for some time, and the deficiency has now extended to skilled and unskilled workers. The large group of unplaced applicants is almost exclusively men and women who cannot meet employers' requirements. High labour turnover is responsible for a considerable amount of temporary unemployment in this area. Among male workers, there is a shortage of skilled construction workers and heavy labourers. A surplus supply of clerical workers, sales workers, semi-skilled metal workers and truck drivers exists. In the female field, labour surpluses are most evident among the following types of workers: clerical workers, sales workers, semi-skilled metal workers, and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	541	2,029	42.2	97.8	65.9	461	22.7	13.6
May 30/46	620	1,664	47.7	96.9	64.7	356	21.4	11.9
June 27/46	565	1,572	48.4	-	Employment Estimate - 26,500			

TRAIL - 52

Situation improving—The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company hired many women during the war, several hundred of whom have been replaced by returning veterans although employment was not reduced appreciably after the war. Although alternative employment was not available for them in the area, employment prospects for male labour are good and will continue to improve - the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company will require 300 or 400 men within the next three or four months. The number of local applicants is sufficient to meet the present demand. The recently settled lumber strike directly affected construction activity. However, there is still a demand for 19 building tradesmen. Housing accommodation remains inadequate. Demand for all types of male labour, with the exception of metalworkers, exceeds supply. On the other hand, many female applicants are idle and with the exception of domestic workers, there is no possibility of their early placement, in this city.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	113	537	54.4	92.0	57.2	34	6.3	4.1
May 30/46	164	396	58.6	88.9	76.0	64	16.2	11.4
June 27/46	130	432	54.2	—	Employment Estimate - 8,300			

HALIFAX - 52

Situation stable—Transportation, trade, and service, are the basis of this city's economy. Most of the men engaged in direct war work were employed in shipbuilding. Employment in this industry has not yet declined to any great extent, although lay-offs are imminent. H.M.C. Dockyard is releasing men very gradually, but no mass lay-off is contemplated. Attempts are being made to secure better piers and improved loading equipment as the facilities for handling cargo in this port are generally outmoded or inefficient. Indications point to the lowest summer tonnage in years. There is a substantial demand for male and female sales clerks. Moreover, experienced fish cutters and filleters are in heavy demand with very few applicants. Inadequate housing accommodation prevents the textile industry from importing experienced sewing machine operators. Construction activity is more active. Most of the male applicants are unskilled workers, truck drivers, metalworkers, clerical workers, and electricians. Overall demand for female workers is good; and while there is a surplus of clerical workers, many of these applicants are insufficiently skilled.

	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	1,996	2,370	12.9	93.8	28.9	1,063	44.9	28.1
May 30/46	1,625	2,488	12.9	94.3	29.7	1,093	43.9	26.4
June 27/46	1,718	2,519	16.0	—	Employment Estimate - 48,800			

GROUP IV

Areas in Which Unemployment is Slight
(For Every 1,000 Workers Employed, Less Than 50 Are Unemployed)

EDMONTON—48

Situation improving—The cessation of hostilities caused mass-lay offs in the Aircraft industry. The major plant, (Northwest Industries Ltd.) is now operating at a much lower level of employment. All other industries, however, with the exception of the service group are employing more men than in May 1941. During the two weeks previous to June 6, sixty men were placed on farms, but with seeding nearly completed, demand is light. Present indications are that material shortages will prevent construction activity from providing the employment expected this year. Since a few of the larger coal mines have again resumed full production, a demand for certificated miners has arisen. Many miners have, however, taken other jobs for the summer. About 400 men have been supplied for extra gang work on railways. Packing plants are well-staffed at present. Unskilled workers, truck drivers, "white collar" workers, and farm hands comprise most of the idle workers. Female applicants are more numerous among the unskilled, clerical, and sales categories.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	2,315	5,054	15.1	91.2	34.9	2,802	55.4	32.0
May 30/46	1,708	3,860	15.7	92.0	28.2	2,191	56.8	27.5
June 27/46	1,686	3,379	18.1	—	Employment Estimate - 70,200			

SASKATOON—46

Situation stable—The end of the war did not directly affect industry in this area. The chief sources of employment, the trade and service industries, and foodstuffs manufacturing have maintained consistent employment levels. Employment in the foodstuffs field doubled between May 1, 1941, and February 1, 1946, and is currently supported by heavy foreign demand. A number of farmers expect to go to Ontario for haying. The discharges who have registered for farm work are hard to place. It is felt that most of the men drawing "Out-of-Work-Allowances" have some employment at home or do not wish to leave the district. Construction is causing an acute demand for all types of skilled tradesmen, (104 vacancies, 14 applicants). Most of the men still unemployed are light factory labourers, for whom there is little demand, truck drivers, clerical, and sales workers. A breakdown of the skills of the "white collar" workers show that a large proportion of them (male and female) are only reasonably, or poorly qualified. Female demand is quite heavy, except for clerical and unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	1,197	1,989	18.4	89.4	32.2	1,001	50.3	41.0
May 30/46	998	1,606	19.4	94.2	25.8	829	51.6	35.8
June 27/46	875	1,877	25.1	—	Employment Estimate - 41,000			

MONTREAL—43

Situation improving—Consistent improvement marks employment conditions in Montreal. The number of applicants registered for employment has dropped 20,500 during the past three months and employment opportunities continue to improve. Shortages of materials and of skilled workers are the main obstacles to full employment in this area. The light manufacturing field offers ever increasing job opportunities, but the accompanying low wages in the majority of cases are a drawback to applicants. Male job seekers numbered 21,143 as at June 20, 1946, with two or three male applicants for every job available. The volume of unemployment is not serious in relation to the total number of wage and salary workers, and is frictional to a large extent. Male unemployed comprise practically all occupational groups: professional and managerial workers, clerical workers, sales workers, service workers, truck and tractor drivers, other skilled and semi-skilled workers, and unskilled labourers. The shortage of female labour in all occupational groups continues.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	19,791	35,873	17.7	88.3	61.9	5,953	16.6	12.0
May 30/46	22,583	31,252	12.7	95.0	50.6	4,895	15.7	11.3
June 27/46	22,645	19,356	12.9	—	Employment Estimate - 449,600			

REGINA—40

Situation improving—Since July 1, 1943 employment in vehicle production has been drastically reduced. In foodstuffs, and petroleum products, which were the other two largest war production fields, employment remains stable. Reduction in war manufacturing has not substantially affected this area as three-quarters of employment is in the non-manufacturing industries, in which the level of activity since V-J Day has been considerably higher than the level maintained during the war years. Seeding has been completed and farm workers are now returning to the city in search of off-season work. There is still a heavy demand for skilled construction workers, with no applicants available. The Saskatchewan Government plans to rebuild and regravel 1,000 miles of roads during the next few months. The Saskatchewan Leather Products plants are now in full production and are hiring additional help as production increases. There are 250 unplaced applicants in the 50 to 75 age group, presenting a difficult placement problem. Male labour demand in the sales and clerical categories is still quite good, although there is a degree of unemployment. Female demand is very high for domestics, but many clerical workers remain unemployed.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	1,124	2,098	19.8	92.2	33.0	1,108	52.8	49.7
May 30/46	863	1,396	27.9	88.0	37.8	712	51.0	49.1
June 27/46	858	1,287	32.9	—	Employment Estimate - 32,100			

KINGSTON--39

Situation improving--Overall employment in Kingston continues on the upgrade. The Aluminum Company of Canada Ltd., is hiring men at the rate of about 12 per week. All other heavy industries are maintaining production and employment, with the exception of the Canadian Engineering and Shipbuilding Company, where small lay-offs have occurred. Canadian Industries Ltd., (Nylon Division) will open its new plant extension shortly, and is hiring men to train for production work. It is anticipated that this firm will require 200 additional workers before the end of the summer. A Davis and Sons, leather manufacturers, have sufficient help at present, but are asking for fifteen men and ten women as replacements for inefficient workers. Currently male applicants outnumber jobs by approximately 2 to 1, with the supply of unskilled workers particularly heavy. In the female field heavy demand for stenographers, typists, and service workers, cannot be met because applicants are largely unskilled.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	364	780	20.0	94.4	41.7	295	37.8	32.4
May 30/46	378	654	23.1	91.3	41.0	262	40.1	32.0
June 27/46	321	718	23.0	—	Employment Estimate - 18,300			

PETERBOROUGH--33

Situation improving--Industry in Peterborough is well diversified. Electrical goods, outboard marine engines, canoes, foodstuffs, clocks, and textiles, are the main products manufactured. The overall employment picture is optimistic. General Electric, Quaker Oats, Western Clock, and De Laval, have all expanded employment markedly since July 1943. Most plants carried a surplus of labour during the change-over to peacetime production in order that operations would not be held up by lack of skilled workers. Consequently the employment situation has remained very stable for some time in spite of increased manufacturing activity. Farm workers are urgently required but few applicants are available. Moreover, a scarcity of construction labour exists. A substantial shortage of female labour also exists, but lack of adequate housing accommodation prevents placements through clearance. Most of the men unemployed are unskilled light factory labourers, truck drivers, electricians, clerical, and sales workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	486	924	4.4	89.4	31.9	470	50.9	41.1
May 30/46	531	768	6.5	85.5	31.6	384	50.0	42.4
June 27/46	431	734	6.3	—	Employment Estimate - 22,500			

BRANTFORD - 31

Situation stable--Brantford, thanks to its highly diversified economy, passed through the reconversion period without serious unemployment. Among the many articles manufactured or processed in this city are farm implements, refrigerators, washing machines, automobile and truck bodies, carpets, roofing, and many other manufactured items for which there is a heavy backlog of consumer demand. The Brantford Refrigerator Company and the Universal Cooler Company have had to make temporary staff reductions because of the current shortage of steel. There is every indication that the steel shortage will seriously effect all local industries as stock piles are rapidly being depleted and very little new material is arriving. The strike of the Wilton rug weavers at the Harding Carpets Ltd. factory persists, with no settlement in sight. Local farmers are in urgent need of helpers but few applicants are available. There is also a heavy demand for skilled metal workers, particularly moulders, core makers, and patternmakers. The shortage of women is most evident in the service and unskilled worker groups.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	607	666	40.8	95.6	61.3	172	25.8	18.5
May 30/46	555	505	46.5	90.1	66.1	104	20.6	14.9
June 27/46	652	532	43.2	-	Employment Estimate - 16,900			

NIAGARA FALLS - 30

Situation stable--War employment in Niagara Falls was chiefly associated with the following: secondary iron and steel products, abrasives, refractories, and chemicals. At April 1, 1945 total employment was 30 per cent higher than at the 1941 level. The post-war decline in manufacturing was not serious, however, and at April 1, 1946 the employment index (1941-100 per cent) stood at 116.0. Overall employment conditions in Niagara Falls have changed radically during the past two months. At April 1, there was a surplus of almost every type of worker, whereas at the present time both skilled workers and physically-fit labourers are in extremely short supply. In the female labour field seasonal demand for tourist camp, hotel and restaurant help by far exceeds supply but it is expected that this situation will become less stringent towards the end of June when high school students will be available for summer employment.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	358	687	24.6	90.2	46.1	222	32.3	26.3
May 30/46	427	499	27.5	93.2	39.7	164	32.9	23.2
June 27/46	369	480	32.3	-	Employment Estimate - 16,100			

LONDON—28

Situation improving—London is a well diversified manufacturing area; consequently it passed through the reconversion period with comparatively little difficulty. Currently, an very stringent labour situation exists, with both male and female workers in short supply. Despite existing shortages of materials, equipment and manpower, local "heavy" industries continue to expand. This indicates a healthy recovery from the immediate post-war slump. The immediate outlook is not as optimistic in the light manufacturing field. Shortages of materials, stemming from industrial disputes in both Canadian and American feeder plants, are seriously retarding production. The number of unplaced applicants registered at the London local office is steadily decreasing; many of the remaining job seekers appear to be practically unemployable. Employers are unable to obtain suitable workers through clearance orders because of the severe housing shortage. In the male labour field, requirements are heaviest for sales workers, carpenters, painters, construction labourers, and unskilled workers. Shortages of female workers are most noticeable in the clerical, sales, and service groups.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	2,391	1,109	14.9	80.2	44.0	462	41.7	25.3
May 30/46	2,603	934	16.4	78.6	37.7	361	38.7	22.3
June 27/46	1,816	921	20.3	—	Employment Estimate - 32,700			

SAULT STE MARIE—28

Situation improving—The iron mining and steel industries of Sault Ste Marie are very active, in response to the heavy demand for steel supplies. Miners, miner helpers and general labourers are being placed with the Michipicoten Iron Mines. There are still eight vacancies for bricklayers in Algoma Steel, but no applicants are available. Hundreds of vacancies are reported in the logging industry with the supply of good bushmen wholly inadequate. A heavy demand exists for extra gang labourers for the Algoma Central and Hudson Bay, and the Canadian Pacific Railways. Workers are being brought in from Winnipeg for jobs with Algoma Central. The Abitibi Power and Paper Company has installed another paper machine which provides employment for 35 men. Building construction is progressing well and, consequently no construction workers are idle. Male labour demand is very high, with the exception of a few clerical workers, truck drivers, and several skilled and semi-skilled, and unskilled workers, and any man willing to accept work in the construction or logging industry can be placed. In contrast there are few vacancies for the many female applicants.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	827	568	50.0	93.5	55.5	145	25.5	11.4
May 30/46	1,520	471	51.2	86.6	59.9	48	10.2	7.6
June 27/46	1,492	439	60.1	—	Employment Estimate - 15,600			

TORONTO - 28

Situation improving—A shortage of female workers and a surplus supply of male labour characterize the general employment situation in Toronto. Toronto, an important financial centre, has always had a larger proportion of gainfully occupied women than most Canadian cities. This is reinforced by the post war expansion of trade, finance, services, and light manufacturing which is causing a heavy demand for women in practically all occupational groups. Male unplaced applicants, although still numerous, have declined markedly during the past three months. Currently, there is a shortage of skilled men in the following trades; service, construction, wood-working, and metal working. Heavy labourers are in short supply, and, although there are a large number of applicants for this type of work, few have the required qualifications. Male unemployment is most serious in the "white collar" occupational group. Approximately one third of the vacancies for women are in the "unskilled" category.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. Vets. 14 Days
April 30/46	17,388	16,116	8.1	93.4	46.2	8,359	51.9	37.3
May 30/46	19,093	14,161	6.6	90.4	42.9	7,294	51.5	31.5
June 27/46	20,898	10,730	9.7	—	Employment Estimate - 383,900			

SHERBROOKE—16

Situation improving—The cessation of hostilities enabled the textile industry, the chief source of employment in the area, to secure sufficient labour to supply its needs. Many workers released from war employment in the secondary iron and steel industry found job openings in textiles. The employment situation has recently been improved by the hiring of woodsmen for work in the United States forests. Secondary iron and steel plants are currently prevented from augmenting their labour force by the shortage of materials. The demand is acute for male apprentices in the textile industry but few applicants are interested at this time, because of the night work involved. Female requirements are high; 300 more girls could be absorbed by textile plants in this city. Paton Manufacturing Company is closed because of a strike; which affects 550 employees, male and female. Most of the male applicants are light factory labourers, truck drivers, "white collar" workers, and service workers; many of these men could be employed in the textile construction and logging industries but most of them are too old, physically incapable, or unwilling to accept this type of work. Overall demand for female applicants is good, but while many women are registered as skilled textile workers, the demand is heavier for unskilled workers.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	495	545	15.2	89.4	61.5	190	34.9	20.4
May 30/46	509	714	30.7	94.7	20.6	166	23.2	11.3
June 27/46	432	317	22.7	—	Employment Estimate - 20,000			

KITCHENER - WATERLOO - 7

Situation stable—The majority of industries in Kitchener are producing goods for which consumer demand is very high. Expanded production is causing a corresponding increase in the demand for labour, but the possibility of a large-scale migration of workers into Kitchener is precluded by the lack of adequate housing accommodation. An urgent demand persists for male and female workers in the rubber industry; this is partly explained by the high labour turnover rate. The construction industry is in urgent need of all types of workers. Tanneries, foodstuffs, furniture, and transportation industries show a substantial demand for male labour. Female demand is also acute, centred chiefly in the textile, service, rubber, button, and foodstuffs industries. Only 32 female applicants are available for nearly 650 jobs. Virtually no suitable applications are available. Most of the male applicants are unskilled workers, and clerical workers. However, demand in both of these cases is quite high, since the applicants are too old or insufficiently skilled to fill these positions.

Date	Unfld. Vacs.	Total Unpl. Apps.	% Female Unpl. Apps.	% Unref. Apps.	% Live Claims	Total Unpl. Vets.	% Unpl. Vets.	% Vets. Unpl. over 14 Days
April 30/46	1,755	163	11.0	78.5	23.3	68	41.7	6.1
May 30/46	1,675	203	11.3	70.4	22.7	69	34.0	7.9
June 27/46	1,043	237	16.9	—	Employment Estimate - 35,900			

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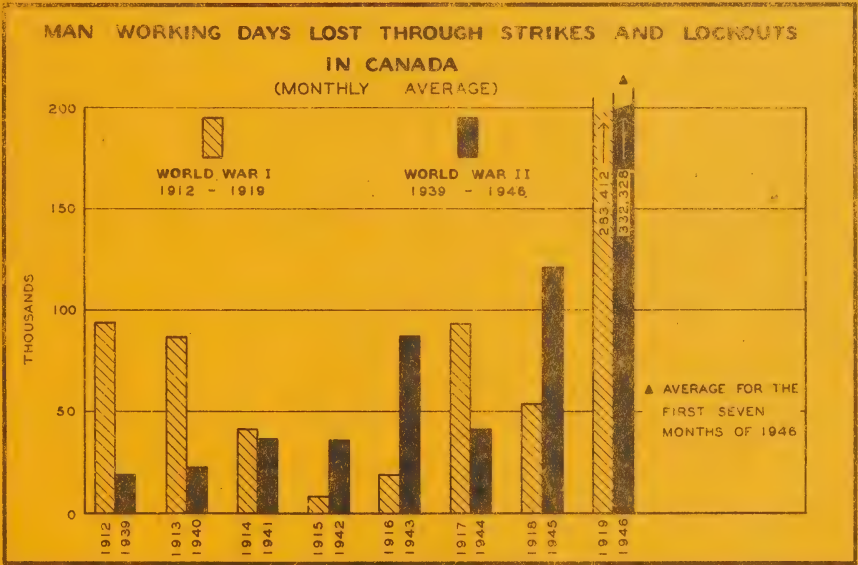
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CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

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JULY, 1946



RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH
DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

AUGUST 15, 1946

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A S W E G O T O P R E S S

Unplaced Applicants registered at the National Employment Service as at August 8, 1946, totalled 153,000. A decline of 14,000 occurred during the interval between July 25, and August 8, 1946. The first week of August saw a reduction of 8,000. The decrease during the month of July was approximately 16,000 in comparison with a drop of 31,000 in June and 34,000 in May. The major part of the decline was focused on males, as in the previous months. Indirect outgrowths of the current strike wave in strategic industries, and direct effects of the intensified materials shortages are blocking employment expansion and modifying the rate of the downward trend of unemployment.

Unfilled Vacancies in Canada as at August 8, 1946, numbered about 109,000. A decrease of 14,000 was evident during July. The number fell a further 3,000 during the first week of August. These figures are not an accurate statement of the total number of jobs available throughout Canada in view of the present reluctance of employers, faced with a situation of uncertain labour relations and materials shortages, to report job openings.

Unplaced ex-servicemen in Canada numbered 54,000 as at the end of July, 1946. Total unplaced ex-service personnel as at the end of June were 61,000. Those unplaced 15 days or more numbered about 37,000 as at July 31, as compared with 45,000 at June 30. During July then, the proportion unplaced 15 days or more dropped to 69 per cent from 73 per cent as at June 30. The proportion of the total unemployed who are ex-servicemen was 33 percent as at August 1, 1946, as compared with 34 per cent at the end of June.

Discharges of Service Personnel during July of this year numbered 20,000, a decline of 3,000 from the total recorded as at the end of June. This brings the total number released from the armed forces since V-J Day to about 642,000.

Labour Shortage Areas in Canada, sometimes side by side with labour surplus areas, coexist with the approaching state of full employment in the Canadian economy today. Cases in point, illustrative of labour shortage districts, are nine local areas which have been selected; Toronto, London, Kitchener-Waterloo, Brantford, Sault Ste. Marie, Fort William and Port Arthur, Drummondville and Yellowknife. Labour shortages have emerged in those areas in which industries producing consumer goods are booming, and in those in which stimulation of primary industries is underway. (See Part III, Section 2, Labour Shortage Areas).

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PART I

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Section I—DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

Canada appears to be approaching the zone of Full-Employment. Unplaced Applicants registered at National Employment Offices in August 1, 1946 numbered approximately 160,000. This may be close to the minimum for the country as a whole, although serious unemployment still exists in certain areas. The immediate problem is one of production, although the long-term objective of economic policy is to maintain as a stable feature the high level of employment reached.

Production the Chief Objective—Maximum production of civilian necessities, both for home consumption and for export, must obviously be the chief economic objective during the present post-war critical shortage of goods.

Maximum production is needed, (1) to supply the home market with urgently needed commodities, such as housing; (2) to diminish the danger of inflation; and (3) to assist reconstruction in Europe and Asia, in order to re-establish the external markets on which our future prosperity will largely depend.

Employment Must be Maintained—Whether a high level of employment is maintained for more than a brief period depends largely upon the wisdom of policies followed during the present crisis. The maintenance of employment, as is generally recognized, depends chiefly upon the stabilization, at an adequate level, in terms of money, of the total demand for goods and services produced within the country. Failure to stabilize total demand means alternate periods of inflation and deflation. Inflation is the danger which must be avoided at present. This is due to the increased supply of money, and the relative decline in the supply of goods, which resulted from the war.

The Level of Wages—An appropriate level of wages is an important requisite to the maintenance of employment. On one hand, since a large proportion of our productive capacity, which had been employed in producing war materials, has now been shifted to the production of civilian goods, it is obvious that the civilian population must receive enough money to buy the increased supply of goods available, if employment is to be maintained. On the other hand, wage increases great enough to require considerable increases in prices would at the present time greatly increase the danger of inflation. Prolonged disputes involving strikes in strategic industries postpone attainment of maximum production, the primary objective.

External Markets—The stabilization of Canadian prosperity still waits, from the broadest point of view, upon the stabilization of conditions overseas. First-class political crises are now in progress in Europe, in the Far East, in the Middle East, and in India, and in no case is the end in sight.

In the case of Great Britain, recent developments have been favourable. British exports have risen beyond the pre-war level. The loans from the United States, and that from Canada, have become accomplished facts. Long-term contracts for the importation of wheat from Canada and other foods from Denmark have been signed. The increase in the value of the Canadian dollar, relative to the pound, should aid British exports to Canada.

High Employment May Be Temporary—Fundamental stability, in Canada and abroad, is still a long way off. The present high level of employment may be a temporary phenomenon. Stable high employment could only follow the successful solution of many problems now in the highest state of crisis.

EMPLOYMENT IN CANADA APPROACHES MAXIMUM

Unemployment in Canada, measured either by unplaced applicants (Section II, Table 1 below), or by June 1 estimate of the Canadian Labour Force Survey of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics (Section III, Table 1), now stands at less than 5% of the non-agricultural labour force. It appears therefore that Canada is close to the condition usually described as "full employment". This is remarkable in view of the fact that the economy has absorbed thousands of displaced war workers, and more than 619,000 ex-servicemen since V-J day.

The unemployment which remains is due, not to lack of jobs, but to the fact that jobs open are unavailable, by location or by quality, to the groups of workers now unemployed.

FULL EMPLOYMENT

Depressed Regions at Competitive Disadvantage—The location of job opportunities does not always coincide with that of labour surpluses. Thus full employment exists in Ontario, and the Prairies, but less than full employment in the Maritime and Pacific regions and Quebec. Beveridge suggests that new industries be established where unemployment is persistent, and that they be designed to absorb the type of labour in supply. In Britain, government control of private investment priority is aimed at this objective.

The problem is more complicated in Canada. The central region—Ontario and Quebec—is the most economic area for the establishment of industry. Raw materials, cheap transportation facilities, and markets are concentrated here. The Pacific and Maritime regions, where new industries to absorb displaced war workers are urgently required, operate at a great competitive disadvantage with the central region. These areas were not highly industrialized before the war, but under the pressure of war needs tremendous expansion took place, particularly in the shipbuilding and aircraft industries. With the end of the war, thousands of jobs disappeared. Civilian industries were not large or sound enough to absorb all the post-war labour surplus. The central region, on the other hand, was able to reconvert to civilian industries which had been well-developed before the war, and in which post-war employment expansion was rapid.

The Prairie region is a separate case. Relatively little war manufacturing had developed in the region, as food products were its major contribution to the war effort. World food demand has sustained production and employment in this industry during the post-war period. Accumulated orders will enable full-speed production for several years.

Difficulty in Matching Labour With Jobs—The second difficulty is that the quality of the labour supply does not always suit the requirements of labour demand. The present labour surplus is composed largely of unskilled workers and those with skills not in demand. The type of worker developed in war industry was highly-specialized, lacking the all-round training necessary for peace-time trade standing. Many ex-servicemen lack previous job training or experience. Workers who are unskilled or only partially-qualified, over-age or physically unfit form the bulk of the labour surplus. The shortage of key skilled labour is doubly serious, as each skilled worker creates additional jobs for unskilled workers. The metalworking and clerical classifications are specific examples of maladjustment. In each there are heavy surpluses of displaced war-trained workers despite substantial labour demand, as employers specify only fully-qualified workers.

Indifference Evident Among Some Summer Job Seekers—It is increasingly evident that some of the unemployed are not seriously interested in obtaining work, and when referred to jobs do not remain at work for very long. This particularly applies in the heavy labour category, although demand for labour is acute. The summer season accounts largely for this indifference.

Labour's Immobility Blocks its Adjustment to Demand—Of the two impediments to full employment, the one of location is the more serious. The quality of the labour supply will eventually adapt itself to labour demand to a great extent. But large-scale movement of workers to areas of employment is difficult in a country of such vast spaces, especially as the heavy regional surpluses are in the extremities of Canada. Lack of housing accommodation bars any large scale migration for the next year or two. One solution of the problem of less than full employment in the Pacific and Maritime regions lies in the development of new industries, economic to these areas.

Aside from the problem of regional employment, maintenance of a stable high level of employment in Canada as a whole, depends upon the success of policies, such as outlined in the White Paper on Employment and Income, directed to the stabilization of consumption, investment, and total national income.

THE UNITED STEELWORKERS OF AMERICA STRIKE

The strike of the steelworkers dominates the current labour scene. Public opinion has been aroused. However, public sympathy for the cause of labour is tempered by the realization that delay in steel production will play havoc with reconversion progress.

Workers Act Now For Future Security—The workers' fear of future insecurity lies at the root of the strike action. They feel they must consolidate their position now in order to support a decent standard of living during the next few years, in view of present inflationary trends. From the union's point of view, this is the logical time to act since their bargaining power is greatest when

their contribution is most vital to economic recovery. The steel industry is one of those hardest hit in times of depression. Therefore it is during the current period of prosperity that workers must plan to protect themselves in anticipation of a slump.

Control Order Designed to Maintain Production—From the government's point of view, the control order was an effort to prevent the possible paralysis of industry by a shutdown in basic steel plants. If it had succeeded, production in this vital industry would have continued while negotiations were underway.

Strikes Hinder Reconversion Progress—Reconversion progress, already stumbling over the barriers of material and key labour shortages, will be dealt a serious blow if the strike persists. Strikes in basic industries drastically delay the successive stages of manufacture. Strikes at the finished product level merely limit deliveries to merchants and consumers, but stoppages at the basic material level have widespread repercussions all along the line.

Background of the Wage Controversy—The union originally asked for a 19½-cent-an-hour wage increase, a 40-hour week and union security. It insisted on a nation-wide bargaining base, but local agreements to allow for the varying costs of the three steel companies would be easier to achieve than a blanket agreement. The wage increase would provide a minimum wage of \$33.60 for a 40-hour week. The union later offered to settle for 15½ cents and a 44-hour week.

Roach Proposals Thrown Back by Union—The proposals of the controller, Justice W.D. Roach, were: a 10-cent-an-hour wage increase for a 48 hour week in all plants; the Rand formula for union security; and an alternative of a 44-hour week without overtime (the obvious union objective in asking for a 40-hour week is the weekly increase bargained for, plus 8 hours at time-and-a-half). These proposals were made to the union negotiating committee, with no assurance that they would be acceptable to the company. The negotiating committee rejected the proposals, as well as the suggestion that they be submitted to a vote of the union rank and file.

The situation differs widely in each of the three companies involved, the Steel Company of Canada, Ltd. (Stelco); The Algoma Steel Corporation, Ltd. (Algoma); and the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation Ltd. (Dosco). Each company insisted that the steel industry should not be treated as a "national" industry and that there were problems affecting each which were not applicable to the others. Later, negotiations almost broke down when it was disclosed that the locals of all three companies had, in effect, delegated their powers to the international officers of the United Steelworkers of America.

To the controller Algoma offered an 8-cent increase for a 48-hour week. The controller did not consider this as adequate to maintain decent living standards. The shortage of manpower is so evident in this area that the union altered its demands to a 15-cent increase and a 44-hour week, although for the first six months the men would work 48 hours, and for the second, 44 hours, with overtime. Union security was not a point of issue here.

At Stelco, management and the union are violently opposed to each other. The question of union security is the most bitter point of issue. To the controller, Stelco offered a 10-cent-an-hour increase, for the 48-hour week, but adamantly refused any form of union security, even check-off. The union offered the same proposals regarding the 44-hour week here as at Algoma.

Dosco, notwithstanding the \$5 per ton price increase granted at April 1, claims that any wage increase would necessitate an increase in the federal subsidy (which totalled almost \$3 million in 1945). Nevertheless, the controller suggested to the union a 10-cent increase for a 48-hour week, the 5 cent differential in wage rates between Dosco and the other two plants to be disposed of by the National War Labour Board. The negotiating committee submitted the proposal to the national advisory committee, which turned it down.

The question of vacation with pay has not been discussed previously. Algoma provides for vacations with pay for all employees of 15 years' continuous service. Stelco's offer would give two weeks with pay to 5-year employees. At Dosco, workers receive one week's vacation with pay after one year's service. The controller suggested a general two weeks' vacation with pay for all employees of 5 years.

Neither the companies', the controller's nor the unions' offers were generally acceptable. Negotiations were thus deadlocked at all plants and the strike commenced on July 15.

The controller strongly recommended that the employees of each company be given the opportunity of expressing their opinions by a secret ballot, after a 60-day cooling period has elapsed. The current practice is that all agreements at the local level are subject to the veto of the national advisory committee. Ten men of a local can call a meeting to consider any wage proposal of the company, even if it has been spurned by the negotiating or national committees, but all voting is by show of hands. Power is thus concentrated at the national rather than the local level. Bargaining on a national basis gives the union greater strength, but inflexibility stems from this method. Compromise solutions between management and labour are more difficult to reach.

MEASURES AGAINST INFLATION

The weakening of price control in the United States, and the rapid rise in prices which has occurred there during the O.P.A. interregnum, have brought the inflation problem to a head for Canada also.

Anti-Inflation Policies—The one effective preventive of inflation, in the long run, will be maximum production. But before this remedy can operate, a period of danger must be passed, during which special measures are necessary. Among these measures the following are especially important:

- (1) Maintenance of the present ceiling on prices, and, as far as necessary, on wages.
- (2) Rapid settlement of strikes.
- (3) Maintenance of high rates of taxation.
- (4) Restoration of parity between the Canadian and American dollars, and simultaneous devaluation of the pound sterling relative to the Canadian dollar.

Effect of Dollar Parity—The purpose of dollar parity is to insulate Canada to some extent from American price rises. Parity does this by reducing the prices in Canadian dollars of Canadian exports to, and imports from, the United States, which prices would otherwise rise in step with the rise in American domestic prices.

The export industries will be hardest hit by the return to parity. Gold mines are particularly affected—marginal mines may be forced to close as they now suffer a loss in exchange rates of \$3.50 per ounce of gold. Producers of nickel, copper, lead and zinc, are also affected.

Newsprint manufacturers have announced an increase of \$6.80 per ton, applicable to both domestic and export markets, to offset the loss caused to them by the restoration of exchange parity. Lumber, wood products and paper exporters will be forced to raise prices in U.S. dollars to maintain their profit margins. Increases in raw material prices will in turn force American manufacturers to boost the price of the finished product. The result—greater inflationary pressure on the Canadian economy.

Removal of the 10% discount on Canadian dollars would normally subject Canadian industry to increased competition from American exporters. This effect, however, will be approximately cancelled by rising prices in the United States. For the same reason, Canadian exporters will suffer less reduction in their receipts than they would under normal conditions.

The 10 per cent discount on Canadian dollars during the war did not represent the true relationship between the two currencies, in terms of buying power. Quite the reverse was true, in fact, as the American dollar suffered more than ours during the war boom. The discount was largely designed to build up American credits for vital war spending, and served this purpose well.

Further Measures Against Inflation—In addition to the restoration of dollar parity, the program to insulate Canada against U.S. inflation included three other major points. Imported goods under price control will be granted a smaller mark-up than goods made in Canada (three-quarters of Canadian imports come from the U.S.). This will discourage imports by reducing the profits from sales of such goods. Government import subsidies will be increased if necessary, however. Price controls will be rigidly maintained on food, clothing, fuel, furniture, autos, building materials, etc. Furthermore, Canada will cut down its American imports if prices of certain commodities go too high.

Canadian price movements lag behind those in the United States. Thus before inflation reaches a crucial point in Canada, it is likely that American production will be high enough to restore price levels to normal. The absence of this external pressure will greatly speed the return to normalcy in Canada.

Labour and Inflation—The worker plays two central roles in the inflation problem. First, he represents the largest group likely to suffer by inflation, and by the deflation and depression which is likely to follow inflation. Second, if the worker engages in prolonged strikes, he will intensify the scarcity of goods, which is the principal source of the inflation danger; and if he succeeds in exacting unduly large wage increases, he may destroy the ceiling on wages and prices, which is the government's chief weapon against inflation.

TAX RATES REMAIN HIGH

The budget estimates for the current fiscal year caused little celebration on the part of the taxpayer. They gave ample evidence, however, of the government's present dilemma. It must stimulate production and at the same time curb excess spending.

Reductions in personal and corporate taxes are designed for the former purpose. Exemptions will be increased from \$660 to \$750 for single persons, and from \$1,200 to \$1,500 for married persons without dependents. A measure removing the encouragement to work given to married women is the change whereby both husband and wife are classed as single persons if the wife has an income of more than \$750.

Proposals to reduce the corporation income tax from 40 to 30 per cent, and the excess-profits tax from 20 to 15 per cent, were received with lukewarm enthusiasm by investors and corporations, who had hopefully expected more drastic cuts. The extension of double depreciation is designed to stimulate corporate investment.

Redirection of Excess Purchasing Power—Most of the proposed changes will not take effect until January 1, 1947, thus delaying the inflationary effect of tax reductions as long as possible. By maintaining relatively heavy taxes, the government can drain off the surplus purchasing power and divert it into the most effective channels for economic recovery. Therefore, 90 per cent of government expenditure will be from revenue in the current fiscal year.

Revenue from all sources was estimated at \$2,510 million, a decline of \$446 million from last year, leaving an estimated deficit of \$300 million. Exemptions will affect about 600,000 taxpayers, reducing revenue at the source by \$130 million.

REVISION OF HOUSING PROGRAM

A revised housing program designed primarily to meet the immediate shelter problem, was announced by the Minister of Reconstruction on July 22. The target is 60,000 housing units in the year ending March 31, 1947, and 80,000 in the following year.

Housing Deficit High—The present housing deficit approximates 150,000 units. A critical period will occur in the fall when summer residences can no longer be used for shelter. The returning veterans and the young couples now living with relatives, are hunting for homes of their own. Demand for houses is ever-increasing and a deficit of 180,000 units is expected by the spring of 1947.

Extension and Consolidation of Housing Program—All federal housing activities will be consolidated in the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, responsible to the Minister of Reconstruction. Provinces, municipalities and private persons will now deal directly with the one organization. Streamlined lending operations under the National Housing Act will increase the number of loan approvals. The Housing Act will now apply to all municipalities. A new priorities system will give greater preference to low-cost government-sponsored housing for veterans. Extension of housing research and government planning operations will aid municipal authorities. Standard municipal agreements have been developed for construction under Wartime Housing Ltd., which provides rental housing for veterans.

The housing need is so great that industrial projects must be limited to those urgent in view of employment expansion. Decision as to the essentiality of such projects remains a municipal responsibility. The wisdom of this is

debatable, as local authorities are more subject to pressure by large concerns than are provincial or federal organizations. Stimulation of building materials production is urged, but other than the extension of double depreciation which applies to all industries, no specific method is suggested. The encouragement of essential imports is also considered vital to the building program.

A successful construction program would afford a large volume of employment. It is estimated that a housing program of 50,000 units provides employment for 143,000 persons for one full year. The direct effect of this activity stimulates building material firms, and indirectly benefits all industries.

Lack of Skilled Labour a Severe Set-Back—Demand for skilled labour remains acute. Serious shortages of bricklayers, masons, carpenters and plumbers, exist. Government training courses are filled to capacity to meet the urgent requirement for skilled craftsmen.

Material Shortages Cramp Building Progress—At present the housing program has bogged down in many areas, because of critical shortages of material. Strikes in the lumber, electrical and steel industries have successively hampered progress. Once these obstacles are removed, the extended financial and administrative assistance granted by this latest plan should begin to produce results.

In many areas, local labour supply is insufficient for capacity production, but lack of housing prevents the in-migration of workers from areas of labour surplus. The more jobs available, the less the burden of unemployment; the more goods, the less inflationary pressure. Above all, shelter for the thousands of homeless veterans, is one of the most solemn responsibilities of the peace-time economy.

Section 2:—LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

Strike Wave Cuts Into Production and Employment—The decline in unemployment continued during July, but at a slower rate. Strikes have crippled production in many industries, and as a result material bottlenecks are becoming more serious. These uncertainties are curtailing employment expansion.

At July 25, there were 167,335 unplaced applicants registered with the National Employment Service. The number of unemployed decreased by 11,569 during July as compared with a decline of 31,847 in June.

Labour Force Expands—Nevertheless, the labour force is still expanding. Approximately 15,000 ex-servicemen entered the labour market during July, according to preliminary estimates, and yet unemployment fell by 11,600 in the same period. An abnormally large number of student workers were also absorbed during the month.

Seasonal expansion is occurring chiefly in non-manufacturing industries, such as agriculture, logging and mining. Heavy demand for male labour exists in all these industries. Manufacturing industries are more directly affected by industrial unrest, and labour demand has slackened considerably. The construction industry is struggling against material shortages, which are growing even more acute as a result of disputes in iron and steel manufacturing. The building industry has just recovered from the recent set-back of the British Columbia woodworkers' strike. Skilled labour is its chief requirement at present.

Unemployment Decline is Chiefly for Males—As the existing requirements are chiefly for male workers, unemployed men declined in number more than unemployed women. At July 25, there were 131,991 male unplaced applicants as compared with 141,137 at June 27 - a drop of 9,245. Female unplaced applicants totalled 35,344 at July 25, a drop of 2,423 from the 37,767 registered at June 27.

The proportion of unREFERRED applicants (workers registered as unplaced who have not yet been referred to jobs) to all unplaced applicants was 93.0 per cent, at July 25, an increase of 0.1 points since June 27.

Pacific and Maritimes Carry Heaviest Regional Unemployment Load—The regional burden of unemployment as related to the non-agricultural labour force, remains heaviest in the Maritimes and Pacific regions where surpluses of displaced warworkers still exist. The unemployment burden is relatively light in Ontario and Quebec, as here a greater part of wartime production was convertible to peacetime production. Seasonal activity in the Prairie region accounts for its present low ratio of unemployment. Unemployment incidence is based upon the non-agricultural, rather than the total, labour force, since unplaced workers are concentrated in urban areas. The burden is thus localized, applying to the areas where unemployment exists, rather than to the whole economy. Current ratios are based upon the D.B.S. Labour Force Survey of June 1, 1946.

Table I—Unemployment as a Percentage of the Non-Agricultural Labour Force by Region

(Source: Labour Force Survey, D.B.S.; Labour Demand and Supply, Research and Statistics Branch)

Region	November 17, 1945			February 23, 1946			July 25, 1946		
	Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%
Maritimes..	303,000	12,000	4.0	310,000	22,000	7.1	324,000	23,000	7.1
Quebec....	1,072,000	60,000	5.6	1,011,000	85,000	8.4	1,025,000	46,000	4.5
Ontario....	1,300,000	54,000	4.2	1,282,000	80,000	6.2	1,332,000	47,000	3.5
Prairies...	462,000	24,000	5.2	488,000	40,000	8.2	515,000	28,000	5.4
Pacific....	322,000	19,000	5.9	344,000	33,000	9.6	356,000	23,000	6.5
Canada..	3,459,000	169,000	4.9	3,435,000	260,000	7.6	3,552,000	167,000	4.7

Regional comparison of unplaced applicants and unfilled vacancies bears out the variation in the regional burden of unemployment. Ontario and Quebec each account for a smaller proportion of applicants than vacancies. Relative balance exists in the Prairies. The Maritimes and Pacific regions are in the worst position, each supporting a much greater percentage of applicants than vacancies.

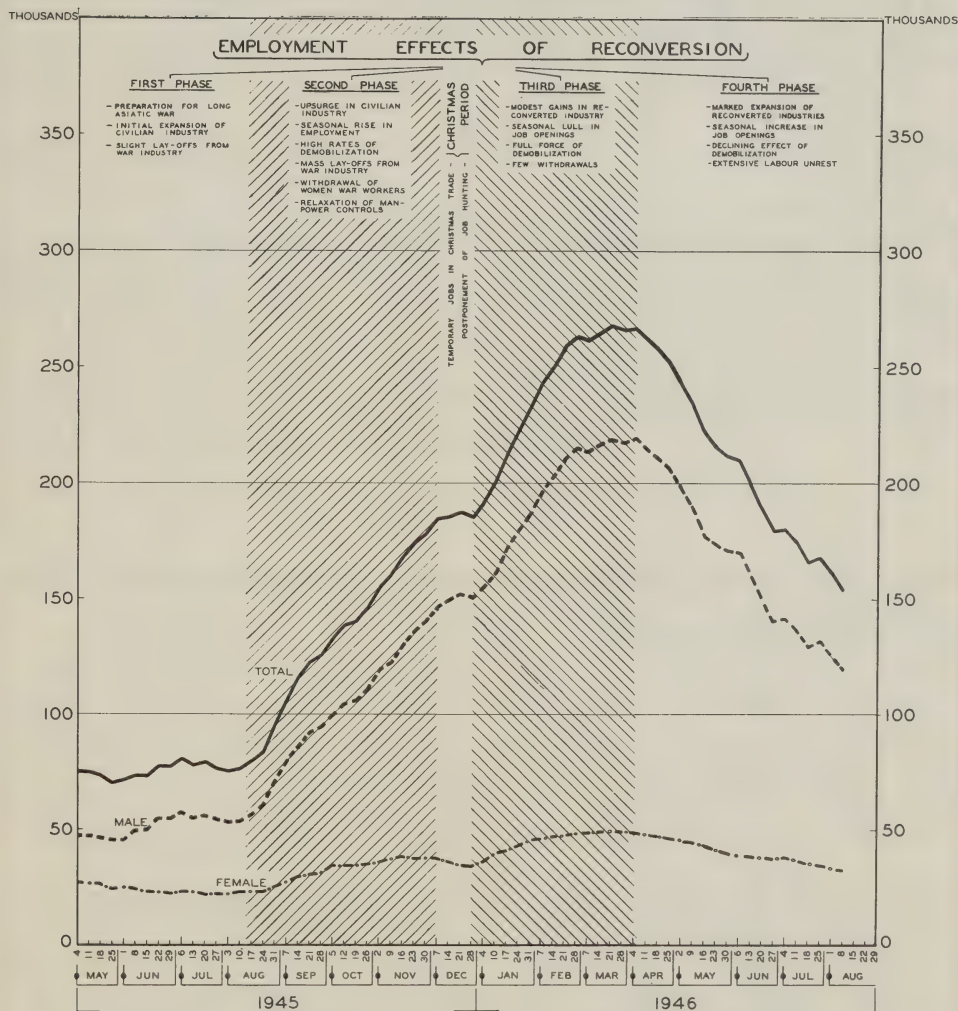
Unfilled vacancies totalled 108,700 at July 25. Jobs for male workers numbered 66,335, and for female workers, 42,361. This figure no longer records total labour demand, as the reporting of all vacancies to the National Employment Service is no longer strictly enforced. Its chief value is in indicating the trend of labour demand. At June 27, there were 120,819 unfilled vacancies listed. The drop since then is the result of three different factors: employers are not listing labour requirements; industrial unrest is curtailing expansion; and available jobs are rapidly being filled.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

AS MEASURED BY THE NUMBER OF

UNPLACED APPLICANTS

REPORTING TO THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

AS MEASURED BY THE NUMBER OF
UNPLACED APPLICANTS

REPORTING TO THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

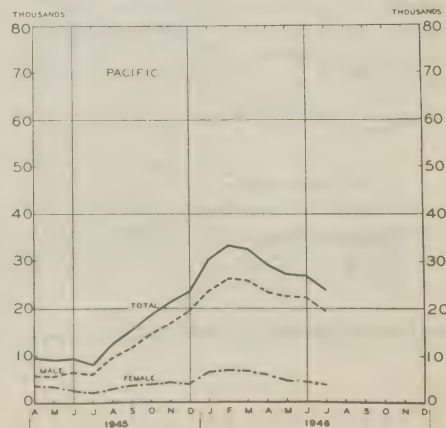
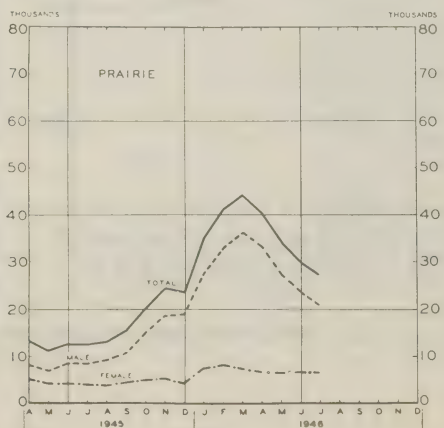
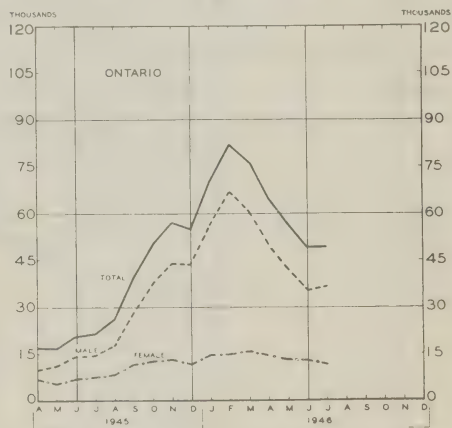
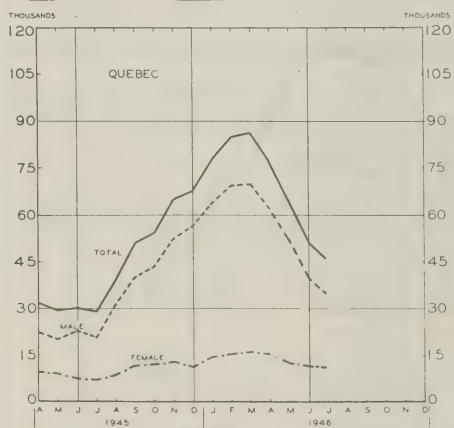
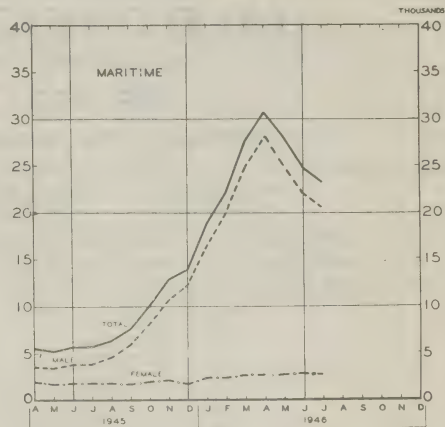
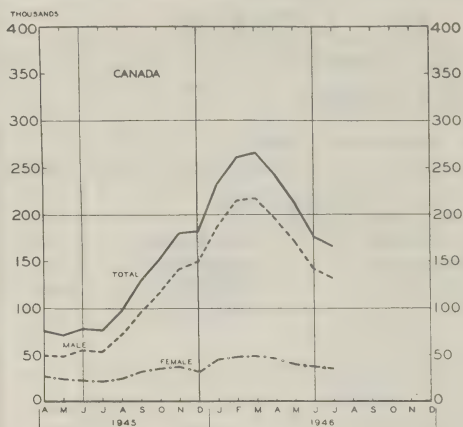


Table II--Regional Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants
as at July 25, 1946

(Source: Advance Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies		Unplaced Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Maritimes.....	6,754	6.2	23,305	13.9
Quebec.....	35,984	33.1	45,727	27.3
Ontario.....	38,036	35.0	47,157	28.2
Prairies.....	18,670	17.2	27,693	16.6
Pacific.....	9,222	8.5	23,453	14.0
Canada.....	108,666	100.0	167,335	100.0

Total unfilled vacancies are fairly evenly divided among the three chief occupational classifications. At July 25, the greatest number of job openings were for skilled and semi-skilled male workers, and next for unskilled male workers. Applicants however, are concentrated most heavily in the male unskilled, and skilled and semi-skilled group. The largest number of ex-service-men is found in the skilled and semi-skilled class. Civilian unemployed are most numerous in the unskilled category, although partially-qualified ex-warworkers contribute largely to the skilled and semi-skilled group of applicants and are difficult to place. Vacancies registered in all female classifications outnumber the corresponding applicants available.

Table III—Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants by Occupation
as at July 25, 1946

(Source: Revised Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch)

Occupational Group	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Canada.....	65,824	42,597	108,421	132,531	35,225	167,756
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service...	8,175	21,106	29,281	30,425	20,648	51,073
Skilled and semi-skilled.....	33,801	9,889	43,690	43,049	6,786	49,835
Unskilled (a).....	23,848	11,602	35,450	59,057	7,791	66,848

(a) Includes farm hands and fishermen

Claimants Decline Following Unemployment Drop—In the last week of June, 82,382 workers signed the live unemployment register, as compared with 98,810 in the same period of May. This means that 46.0 per cent of the unemployed were claiming the protection of unemployment insurance at June 30, although not all would qualify for benefits. Male live claims declined from 74,130 to 60,210 during June, and female claims dropped from 24,680 to 22,172. These declines reflect the marked decrease in unemployment which occurred during June. There were 26,717 claims disallowed during June, as compared with 8,959 in May. The rapid rise in claims disallowed because of insufficient contributions, 13,412, accounts for the increase; 7,626 were for leaving work without just cause.

During June, the sum of \$4,468,238 in insurance benefits was paid to 103,231 workers, as compared to \$5,221,870 received by 127,886 persons in May.

Veterans claiming out-of-work benefits at the end of June totalled 30,655. Therefore, 63.2 per cent of the total unemployed were covered by some form of protection at June 30.

Seasonal Upswing in Industrial Employment Despite Strikes—Industrial employment at the beginning of June registered a very slight increase over that of the previous month, despite the adverse effects of widespread strikes. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported a combined working force of 1,610,066 men and women at June 1, as compared with 1,803,897 at May 1. The index of employment rose from 168.0 to 168.6 during the same period. The latest index compares with 173.1 at June 1, 1945, and is more than 50 per cent higher than the 113.1 of June 1, 1939.

Labour Unrest Hits Durable Goods Manufacturing—Employment in manufacturing declined by 8,800 to stand at 968,400. The reduction was contra-seasonal in character and was largely the result of extensive strikes in the lumber industry of British Columbia, and of local disputes in the textile and non-ferrous metal industries of Ontario and Quebec. The decline was concentrated in durable goods manufacturing, which includes the iron and steel, non-ferrous metals, electrical apparatus and lumber industries, all of which were afflicted by labour unrest at that time. Durable goods employment totalled 443,654 at June 1, having dropped by 12,312 since May 1. Employment in non-durable goods manufacturing advanced to 502,420, a gain of 2,704. Expansions in food, and pulp and paper plants, chiefly accounted for the increase.

Labour Strife Shackles Logging and Transportation—Among the non-manufacturing industries, strike action caused declines in the logging and transportation fields. Seasonal expansion occurred in construction and maintenance; 20,300 additional workers were reported. Smaller seasonal increases were registered in mining, communications, services and trade.

There were 1,386,175 men and 423,891 women employed at June 1 in the nine leading industries. During May, the number of men increased by 8,007, or 0.6 per cent, while women workers decreased by 1,833, or 0.4 per cent. The ratio of women per 1,000 workers was 234 as compared with 236 at May 1, and with 271 at October 1, 1944. The collapse or curtailment of war work is the chief factor of decline, but strikes (in textiles particularly) and seasonal influence, also accounted for the loss in female employment.

Effects of War and Reconversion on Industries—The 30 chief manufacturing industries can be divided into six groups on the basis of their wartime and post-war employment trends.

The first group expanded sharply in 1939 from only a slight background of civilian production, and soared to great heights. Expansion ranged from 400 per cent to 1,500 per cent. As war activity slackened, employment dropped almost as sharply as it had previously risen, and now stands at about 250 per cent above pre-war levels. Shipbuilding and repairing, non-ferrous metal products and chemicals and allied products, are the industries in this group. They are not convertible to peacetime production on a large scale, and thus the greatest labour surpluses stemmed from their collapse.

The second group rose sharply, but to lesser heights. Expansion was between 50 to 250 per cent, and has since tapered off only slightly. Foundry and machine shops, crude, rolled and forged products, machinery (not vehicles), autos and parts, and electrical apparatus manufacturing form this group. Demand for labour is still substantial in these reconverted industries.

The third group rose moderately (less than 100 per cent), declining slightly during post-war reconversion to production of civilian goods, and is now re-expanding under the pressure of consumer demand. The re-establishment of ex-servicemen with their need for civilian clothing, etc., has currently stimulated activity in this group. Woollen yarn and cloth-cotton yarn and cloth, and garments and personal furnishings, are the industries affected.

The fourth group comprises industries in which employment has risen considerably during the war and is still rising at the same rate. Post-war reconversion was not necessary to any great extent, and demand has remained persistent. Employment in the industries belonging in this classification is now between 50 per cent and 100 per cent higher than at the beginning of the war. Agricultural implements, beverages furniture, rough and dressed lumber, rubber products, paper products, artificial silk and silk products, fur and products, and edible animal products, are the industries forming the fourth group.

The fifth group contains industries whose employment rose slightly at the beginning of the war, continued at the same level until the end, and is now showing an upward twist as more manpower becomes available. Boots and shoes, hosiery and knit goods, pulp and paper, clay, glass and stone products, printing and publishing, and electric light and power, are included in this classification.

The sixth group rose slightly during the war, but in the post-war period has remained stable, neither declining nor expanding. Edible plant products, non-metallic mineral products and heating appliances, are the industries in this classification. Demand for their products has been maintained at approximately the final war-time level.

Aggregate Payrolls Show Set-Back—The drop in aggregate payrolls during May was due largely to industrial disputes, and also to the fact that the Victoria Day holiday occurred in the week preceding June 1. Workers in recorded employment received \$57,564,041 at June 1, which was below the \$58,017,781 of May 1. The index of payrolls stood at 137.0 at June 1, as compared with 138.0 at May 1, and 142.7 at June 1, 1945. Since June 1, 1941, employment has risen 12 per cent, while payrolls have advanced 37 per cent. The rise in payrolls, which was much greater than that in employment is chiefly attributable to the concentration of workers in highly-paid heavy manufacturing, where overtime is also a factor; to the incorporation of cost-of-living bonuses in wage rates; and to upgrading of workers as they gained industrial experience.

Movements in aggregate payrolls by industry, corresponded to employment trends. Payrolls in durable goods manufacturing declined sharply, reflecting the decreased employment in this field. The index fell from 131.7 at May 1, to 125.4 at June 1. The non-durable goods index advanced from 143.8 to 144.2 in the same period. Among the non-manufacturing industries, logging registered the greatest loss in payrolls—the index dropped from 198.7 to 153.7 during May,—and construction the greatest advance—from 111.3 to 126.9.

Average Weekly Earnings Taper Off—The average worker received \$31.80 in weekly earnings at June 1, as compared with \$32.16 at May 1, and \$32.15 at June 1, 1945. The same factors affecting the decline in payrolls, apply to the slump in weekly earnings, industrial disputes in particular. The Victoria Day holiday also reduced weekly earnings. Earnings were highest in the mining industry, \$38.77; and lowest in services, \$20.70. Weekly earnings in manufacturing were \$31.83, durable goods standing at \$33.78 and non-durable goods at \$29.81; slight reduction occurred in both sections during May.

Average Hourly Earnings Drop During May—Average hourly earnings in manufacturing at May 1 (the latest date at which these figures are available), were 68.9 cents, as compared with 68.4 cents recorded at April 1, and 70.5 cents at May 1, 1945. Changes in industrial distribution and reduction in overtime work are the most important factors in explaining the decline in the past year. Both the durable goods and the non-durable goods sections advanced half a cent from their levels of April 1, to stand at 75.6 cents and 62.3 cents respectively.

Reduction in Average Weekly Hours in Manufacturing—Average weekly hours worked in manufacturing at May 1 declined to 43.0 hours from 44.4 hours at April 1. This occurred despite a slight increase in manufacturing employment, and is explained by the Easter holiday in the week of May 1. The reduction was equally distributed in durable and non-durable manufacturing, which recorded 43.2 hours and 42.8 hours respectively. At May 1, 1945, the weekly average was 45.5 hours, but at that period overtime was a more important factor.

Industrial Production Index Falls Further—The index of industrial production declined further during June. It stood at 179.4 for June, as compared with 189.6 during May, and 197.9 in April. Marked declines occurred in several industries as a direct result of strike action.

Preliminary figures for June indicate a general recession. Activity in the secondary iron and steel industry declined, as labour unrest spread. The electrical apparatus and other non-ferrous metal plants expanded production. Output declined in the textile industry, only 9.9 million pounds of raw cotton being used as against 14.6 million pounds in May. Again labour unrest was the chief factor of decline.

Construction Industry Loses Ground with Lumber Strike—The output of newsprint was 334,207 tons in June, as compared with 359,943 tons in May. Exports of lumber, shingles and woodpulp dropped slightly. Lumber scaled in British Columbia declined further as a result of the woodworkers' strike. Construction activity was adversely affected by the lumber strike and the value of contracts awarded fell to \$66.4 million from \$82.2 million in May.

During May manufacturing operations had dropped to a level of 189.6 from 189.9 in April. Heavy industry advanced, however, as the rise of five dollars per ton in the price of steel ingots stimulated production. The textile industry also expanded, from 139.4 to 144.0; more raw cotton was used than in any May since 1943. Considerable decline occurred in the groups dependent on crop and animal products. The animal products index fell from 161.1 in April to 111.5 in May. This reflects a more than seasonal decline, which is due to the fact that farmers were holding animals in expectation of higher prices.

The index of lumber scaled in British Columbia dropped from 122.0 in April to 80.0 in May, as a result of the woodworker's strike. The uncertainty regarding lumber was reflected in a decline in the index of construction activity from 426.3 to 302.6.

The pattern of demand for goods has changed radically with the end of the war. Some industries were forced to cease operations, others merely shifted from wartime to peace-time products. In consumer goods industries--textiles, furniture, foodstuffs, etc.--~~peace-time~~ further intensified the existing heavy demand for their products.

Record-breaking Time Loss from June and July Strikes--The surging industrial unrest of recent months grew worse during June. There were 36 strikes in existence, one more than in the previous month, while workers involved totalled 70,688 as compared with 47,730 in May. Man-working days lost reached the appalling sum of 935,188, a tremendous jump over the total of days lost last month, 564,925, which was staggering enough in itself.

The strike of the British Columbia woodworkers, which ended in the middle of the month, and the dispute in the lake shipping industry, were chiefly responsible for the immense time loss during June. Strikes broke out in the textiles, motor and rubber industries, while further unrest spread in the foundry and printing trades.

Labour strife became more violent during July. In the rubber industry, 10,000 workers were out; 4,800 stopped work in the electrical field; 5,000 textile workers and 3,400 automobile workers remained inactive. The strike of the 13,000 steelworkers on July 15, was a final crushing blow to production. (This strike is discussed in detail in the Dominant Features section). Advance estimates indicate that approximately 700,000 man-days were lost in July, through strikes involving some 50,000 workers.

The fundamental cause of the present labour unrest is the workers' fear of insecurity. Now is the crucial time for labour to consolidate its war-time gains, in anticipation of the slump to follow the current post-war boom.

Both management and labour gained economic strength during the war. Business made substantial earnings and acquired new plants and new techniques. However, a large part of labour's increased earnings were due to overtime, rather than to increases in basic wage rates. Labour's two objectives are: a larger share of the national income through collective bargaining pressure, and protection for low income through minimum wage and social security legislation.

Table IV—Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note.—All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Features	June 1939	June 1940	June 1941	June 1942	June 1943	June 1944	June 1945	May 1946	June 1946
Employment (a) -									
Index (Av. 1926 - 100).....	113.1	120.6	155.4	169.3	178.3	177.8	173.1	168.0	168.6
(June 1, 1941 - 100).....	—	—	100.0	112.0	117.9	117.6	114.7	111.3	111.7
Number (thousands).....	1,214	1,295	1,668	1,818	1,914	1,909	1,858	1,804	1,810
Female (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	426	424
Unemployment (b) -									
Total (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	63.0	70.0	242.4	210.4
Male (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	38.0	46.0	196.8	170.1
Female (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	25.0	24.0	45.6	40.3
Live Claims									
Total (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	7.3	16.6	124.0	98.8
Male (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	5.5	10.0	95.0	74.1
Female (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	1.8	6.6	29.0	24.7
Earnings (a)									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941 - 100).....	—	—	100.0	124.7	142.1	145.1	142.7	138.0	137.0
Per capita weekly earnings.....	—	—	25.49	28.27	30.93	31.83	32.15	32.16	31.80
Cost of Living (c) -									
(Av. 1935-39 - 100).....	—	104.9	110.5	116.7	118.5	119.0	119.6	122.0	123.6
Man-hours and hourly									
earnings (a) -									
Average hours per week.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	44.3	43.0	42.0
Average hourly earnings.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	70.3	68.9	69.1
Strikes and lockouts (b) -									
Number.....	13	14	32	55	59	23	13	35	36
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	2.4	6.8	7.5	16.3	23.3	6.0	2.9	47.7	70.7
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	8.6	38.8	39.3	41.6	142.9	9.5	5.1	564.9	935.2
Industrial Production (d) -									
(Av. 1935-39 - 100).....	106.3	129.0	175.2	222.1	267.2	266.8	236.2	189.6	179.4

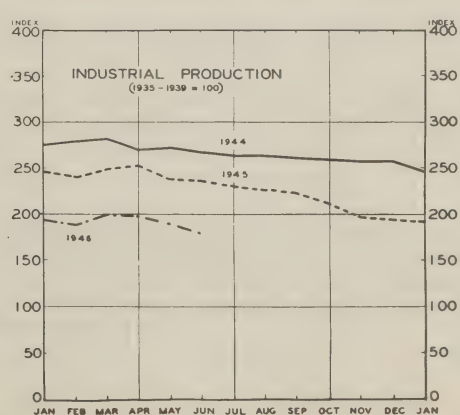
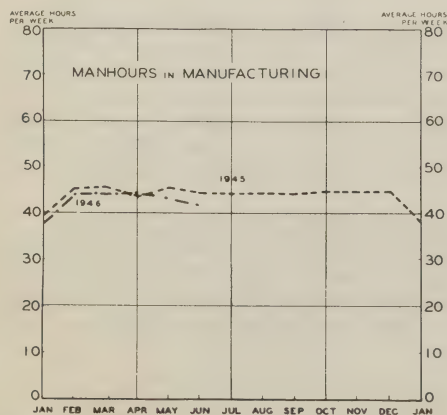
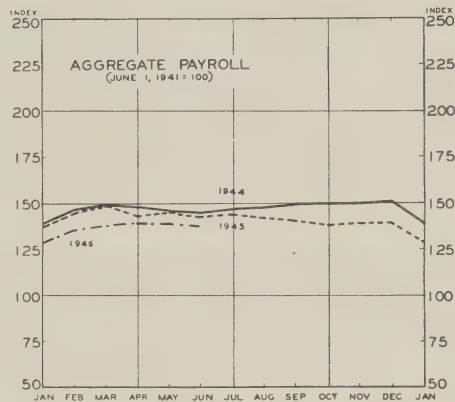
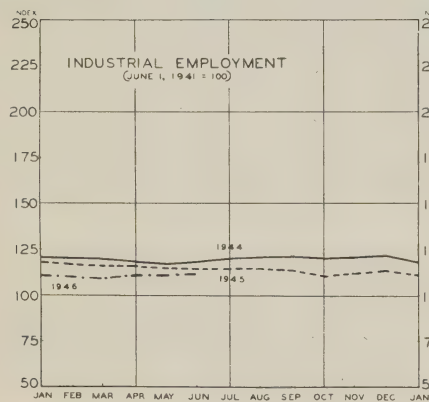
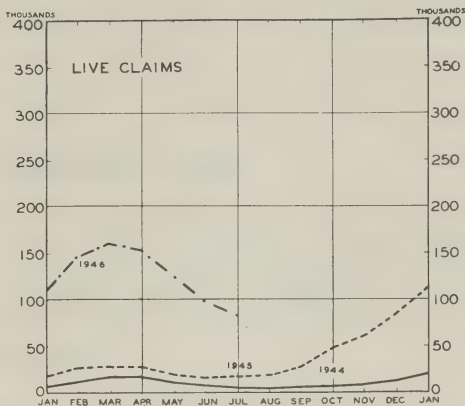
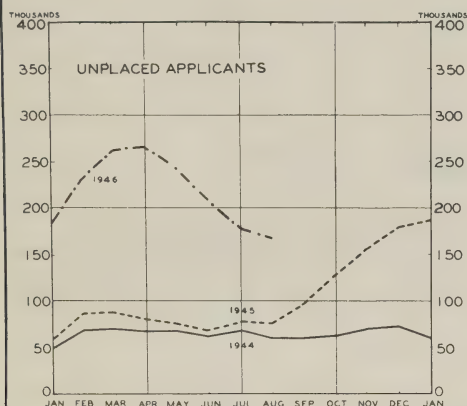
(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET



Section 3:—THE CANADIAN LABOUR FORCE.

Third Labour Force Survey—Table I presents the results of the third Labour Force Survey of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The table shows the changes which occurred in the labour market status of Canadians, 14 years of age and over, in the three month period between February 23, and June 1.

SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS

War Aftermath Still Influential—Post-war adjustments continue to influence the shifting of persons among the various population classes. The latest survey shows an addition of 180,000 persons to the civilian non-institutional population since February 23, resulting in a total of 8,718,000 at June 1, 1946. The demobilization of service personnel is still inflating the increase in the number of males in the civilian population, which showed an addition of 158,000 during the period under consideration. The inflow of ex-servicemen should be almost completed by the time of the next survey. Growth of the civilian population after that time may be ascribed to natural increase and immigration.

Labour Force Volume Swells—As the employment outlook brightened with increased spring activity and reconversion progress, veterans, students, and housewives entered the labour market, with the result that the non-working population dropped by 123,000. The labour force, on the other hand, showed a net gain of some 303,000 persons. The number employed increased by 390,000 and unemployment showed a decline of 87,000.

Seasonal Upswing in Agriculture Draws Labour Recruits—The seasonal factor in the agricultural industry is reflected in the swing back to this industry which took place after the winter months. Between February and June an additional 191,000 persons were engaged. Women, mostly family workers, made up over one-half of this increase. Having worked over 20 hours on the farm, as distinct from the home, during the survey week, as spring planting and seeding got underway, they were included in the employed group.

Overall Non-agricultural Employment Gain—Non-agricultural workers increased by 199,000 during the three month period. All classes in this group showed a gain over the February figure but the largest increase was evident among paid workers for private employers. This group numbered 2,578,000 at June 1, as compared with 2,430,000 at February 23.

Table I--Estimated Civilian Non-Institutional Manpower
(Thousands of Persons, 14 Years of Age and Over)

(Source: D.B.S., Labour Force Survey)

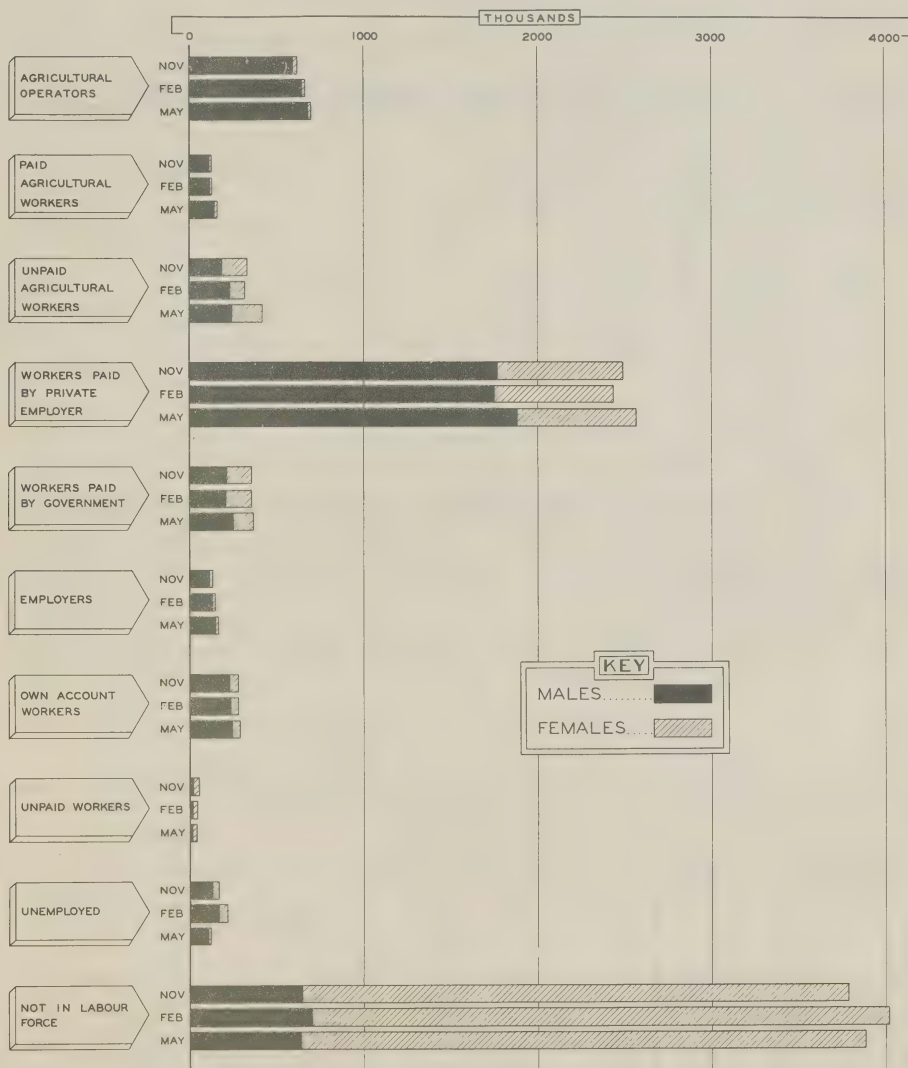
Population Class	February 17 - 23, 1946		May 26 - June 1, 1946	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Total civilian non-institutional manpower.....	4,215	4,323	8,538	4,373
A. Labour Force.....	3,511	1,014	4,525	3,732
1. <u>Employed</u>	3,532	980	4,312	3,624
(1) <u>Agricultural</u>	985	98	1,085	1,074
Operators.....	646	13	659	684
Paid workers.....	110	(b)	116	144
Unpaid workers.....	229	79	308	246
(2) <u>Non-agricultural</u>	2,347	882	3,229	2,550
Paid workers.....	1,971	800	2,771	2,151
Unpaid workers.....	1,752	678	2,450	1,899
By private employer.....	219	122	341	252
By government (federal, provincial, municipal).....	121	(b)	130	135
Employers.....	244	46	290	253
Own Account Workers.....	11	27	38	11
Unpaid workers.....				
2. <u>Unemployed</u>	179	34	213	108
B. Not in Labour Force.....	704	3,309	4,015	3,249
1. <u>Permanently unable or too old to work</u>	157	132	269	158
2. <u>Keeping house</u>	(b)	2,731	2,733	(b)
3. <u>Going to school</u>	327	311	638	288
4. <u>Retired or voluntarily idle</u>	192	125	317	174
5. <u>Other</u>	26	10	36	18
				6
				18
				24

(b) Fewer than 10,000.

ESTIMATED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL MANPOWER

(14 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER)

NOVEMBER 11-17, 1945, FEBRUARY 17-23, 1946, MAY 26-JUNE 1, 1946



EMPLOYMENT

Employed persons are those who worked one hour or more during the week ending June 1, as well as those who had jobs but did not work at them because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labour disputes, or temporary lay-offs of less than 30 days duration. Paid workers, employers own accounts and no pays are all classed as employed.

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION

Table II—Regional Distribution of Employment

(Thousands of Persons, 14 Years of Age and Over)

Region	February 23		June 1	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Maritimes.....	372	8.6	414	8.8
Quebec.....	1,206	28.0	1,289	27.4
Ontario.....	1,504	34.9	1,618	34.4
Prairies.....	877	20.3	1,007	21.4
British Columbia.....	353	8.2	374	8.0
Total.....	4,312	100.0	4,702	100.0

Shifts in Regional Distribution of Employment—The number of persons employed shows a constant rise in all provinces since last November, but as shown in Table II, the regional distribution has altered somewhat. The Prairies and Maritimes have gained relatively but at the expense of the other three regions. The gain in the Prairie region may be traced almost entirely to the seasonal swing back into agriculture. Expansion held back during the war is getting underway in these regions. Women made up 20 per cent of the increase in the Maritimes and 64 per cent in the Prairies.

Table III—Industrial Distribution of Employment

(Thousands of Persons, 14 Years of Age and Over)

Industry	February 23			June 1		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Agriculture.....	985	98	1,083	1,074	200	1,274
Forestry, fishing and trapping.....	132	(b)	134	69	(b)	70
Mining (a).....	69	(b)	71	67	(b)	68
Manufacturing (c).....	928	253	1,181	1,011	245	1,256
Construction.....	151	(b)	154	236	(b)	241
Transportation and communication..	284	38	322	298	38	336
Trade, finance and insurance.....	407	228	635	441	244	685
Service.....	376	356	732	428	344	772
Total.....	3,332	980	4,312	3,624	1,078	4,702

(a) Includes milling, quarrying, oil wells. (b) Fewer than 10,000.

(c) Includes production and supply of electricity, gas and water.

Employment Expansion Focused on Males—Total employment climbed nine per cent between February 28 and June 1. This increase was concentrated in the number of males employed although the proportion of women rose slightly as a result of the heavy inflow of women into agriculture. In non-agricultural industries the female ratio declined, continuing the trend established with cessation of hostilities.

Employment Decline Evident in Some Industries—All industries did not contribute to the overall gain in employment. The number of workers engaged in forestry, fishing and trapping was almost cut in half with the seasonal curtailment in the logging industry. Mining showed a slight decline.

Material Shortages Cut Into Construction Boom—Construction showed the largest gain during the period, as industrial and private building got underway with the spring season. Employment at June 1, stood at 157 per cent of what it was in February. The construction industry at that time employed 5.2 per cent of all employed workers in Canada compared with 3.6 per cent last February and 4.2 per cent last November. Material shortages are hindering an even more spectacular increase in construction employment.

Unpaid Family Workers Involved in Agriculture Upswing—Agriculture gained relatively to other industries in the three month period, employing 27 per cent of all persons at June 1, compared with 25 per cent in February. As previously mentioned, this was a seasonal expansion made up largely of unpaid family workers, the majority of whom were women. The percentage of women employed in agriculture has jumped from 9 per cent to 15 per cent between February and June but the female ratio is slightly below that of last November. This is indicative of some net retirement of women from agriculture. The percentage of married women employed in this industry crept up from 55 per cent in February to 56 per cent in June. The number of paid agricultural workers will show a substantial increase as fruit and vegetables come into season and as grain harvesting begins. The recent action on the part of the Unemployment Insurance Commission to discontinue paying benefits to single men who have had previous agricultural experience and who refuse to accept "suitable" farm work will tend to accelerate this increase.

Current Withdrawal of Women from Manufacturing Employment—Employment in manufacturing rose six per cent but relative to all employers of labour it tapered off from 27.4 per cent to 26.7 per cent of all employed persons. Women continue to withdraw from manufacturing employment. The female ratio fell off from 21.4 per cent in November to 19.5 per cent in June. The series of strikes has blocked the expected gain in manufacturing employment.

HOURS WORKED PER WEEK

The number of person engaged in agriculture who worked over fifty-five hours per week increased by 264,000. At the same time there was a sharp rise in the number of persons employed from 1 to 14 hours per week, as members of farm families helped with the farm work in the peak production periods.

In non-agricultural industry, the number of persons increased in all groups except in those with a work period of 55 hours and over. The rise in number of those working less than 24 hours per week points to a substantial increase in the number of casual and part time workers.

Table IV—Percentage Distribution of Employed Persons by
Hours Worked per Week

Number of Hours	Agriculture		Non-Agriculture	
	February 23	June 1	February 23	June 1
0 (1)	1.2	.8	2.8	3.2
1 - 14	3.2	7.8	1.6	1.7
15 - 24	5.2	5.1	2.5	2.6
25 - 34	5.7	2.9	3.1	3.6
35 - 44	9.4	4.2	33.3	35.6
45 - 54	19.3	10.9	43.4	41.1
55+	56.0	68.3	13.3	12.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(1) Included in the employed are those classified as working zero hours per week as they had a job at which they did not work during the survey week.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The unemployed group includes those who were looking for work in the survey week, but did not work. To be classed as looking for work a person must be making active efforts either to obtain a job or begin a business or must be sufficiently familiar with conditions of the labour market in his community to know that no suitable work is available.

Unemployment Falls Off—According to the survey at June 1, 1946, there were 126,000 persons, or 2.6 per cent of the labour force, unemployed in Canada. This is a decrease of 87,000 since February 23, 71,000 males and 16,000 females, during the three month period. Unemployment among women was almost cut in half in the six month period, while among men it fell by 22 per cent between November 17 and June 1. At June 1, one person in every seven unemployed was a woman compared with one in five last November.

Unplaced applicants as reported by the National Employment Service numbered 210,000 at the survey date. This figure represents a decrease of 50,000. Unemployment as reported by the survey for the same time period showed a decrease of 87,000.

The discrepancy between the two figures may be attributed to a difference in the classifications of casual workers and workers on temporary lay-off. Casual workers are classified as employed by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics if they worked at least one hour in the survey week ending June 1. There were 146,000 persons employed in non-agricultural industries working between one and twenty-four hours per week. Some of these may have registered with an employment office as seeking full-time work and would be included as unplaced applicants.

During the survey week there were 15,000 wage earners in industries covered by the Unemployment Insurance Act who were temporarily laid-off. Most of these persons would be registered as unplaced applicants in order to qualify for their benefits. In the Dominion Bureau of Statistics survey, persons who are on temporary lay-off with instruction to return to work within 30 days are classed as employed, unless they are definitely looking for work in which case they are classed as unemployed.

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION

Table V—Regional Distribution of Unemployment

(Thousands of Persons, 14 Years of Age and Over)

Region	February 23		June 1	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Maritimes.....	27	12.7	21	16.7
Quebec.....	75	35.2	44	34.9
Ontario.....	56	26.3	33	26.2
Prairies.....	34	16.0	15	11.9
British Columbia.....	21	9.8	13	10.3
CANADA.....	213	100.0	126	100.0

Prairies Take Major Part in Overall Employment Gain—Unemployment has declined in all provinces since February. The greatest improvement was shown in the Prairie provinces, where unemployment is relatively lowest. Although the employment picture has brightened in the Maritimes since February, 4.8 per cent of the labour force is still unemployed.

INDUSTRIAL DISTRIBUTION

Table VI—Industrial Distribution of Unemployment⁽¹⁾

(Thousands of Persons, 14 Years of Age and Over)

Region	February 23		June 1	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Manufacturing.....	87	40.8	43	34.1
Construction.....	21	9.9	(a)	(a)
Transportation and communication.....	17	8.0	10	7.9
Trade, finance and insurance.....	21	9.9	14	11.1
Service.....	25	11.7	16	12.7
Other(2).....	15	7.0	(a)	(a)
None(3).....	27	12.7	28	22.2
Total.....	213	100.0	126	100.0

(1) Industry classifications are based on the last reported civilian job of two weeks duration or more.

(2) Includes agriculture, forestry, fishing, trapping and mining.

(3) This class refers to those now seeking jobs who have never been employed previously.

(a) Fewer than 10,000.

The fluctuating proportional increases in employment in the various industrial groups during the three month period is reflected in the relative changes in unemployment in these industries. The number now unemployed who formerly worked for manufacturing firms was cut in half while the number unemployed in the construction industry was negligible. The proportion of those seeking work for the first time has almost doubled. This is attributable to the preference given experienced workers as well as to the large number of students entering the labour market.

Section 4:—OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The following analysis is based on the statistics obtained from the local offices of the National Employment Service throughout Canada. Since this series is open to error from various sources, it is felt that there should be a clarification of the terms used.

"Unemployment" is measured by the number of unplaced applicants on file at National Employment Service offices. Unplaced applicants do not include workers who are "employed". Applications, however, remain "alive" for 30 days. Under the easy labour market conditions to-day, many workers are seeking and accepting work through personal contacts. Therefore, there undoubtedly exists a period (not exceeding 30 days) when a worker may be considered as unemployed by the local offices although he is actually working. This over-estimation, however, is mitigated by the fact that on registering for benefits, the applicant must hand in his unemployment insurance book to the office. On accepting work in insurable employment, he must regain his book. His application is then cancelled. The most obvious possibility of error exists among non-insured workers or insured persons entering non-insured industries. There is an overlapping also when unemployed persons seek work in several local office areas. However, the current lack of housing accommodation tends to block any large scale movement of labour.

That vacancies are not adequately reported is indicated by the fact that more workers get jobs by their own efforts than through the employment offices. Undoubtedly there are many excellent types of workers seeking permanent employment at this time. In view of this many firms hire workers although no specific jobs maybe vacant. The job is "made" for the worker. On the other hand, a possibility exists that vacancies might be over-estimated in "labour-tight" industries, particularly in logging and textiles. By placing orders in excess of the number required, it is hoped that a sufficient number of workers may be obtained to meet labour needs.

VACANCIES NOTIFIED
(Reference Table I and Table VII)

Jobs Reported Drop--Reporting of vacancies slackened during June as compared with the previous month. The decline is a normal development following the accelerated seasonal activity during the spring. The largest drops in the number required took place in Quebec and British Columbia. In the latter province the decrease was entirely centred in male labour needs. Labour disturbances in the textile and lumber industries within these provinces have seriously affected current employment opportunities. Approximately 38,000 non-agricultural jobs were reported per week in June as compared with 40,000 in the previous month and 47,000 one year previous.

Fewer Vacancies Reported in Manufacturing Industries--Repercussions from the strike-wave throughout the country have effected practically all manufacturing industries. Existing shortages of materials have become more acute, necessitating cut-backs and lay-offs. The effects of past, present, and pending strikes have jeopardized the expansion programs which would normally have been undertaken at this time. Labour needs of the textile, transportation equipment manufacturing, and rubber and leather plants declined markedly during June. There continued, however, to be an upward movement in labour requirements of pulp and paper mills.

Shrinkage in Mining, Construction, and Transportation Labour Needs--Mining labour requirements declined sharply during June, contrary to the normal seasonal upswing at this time of year. Brooding labour unrest, and extremely limited housing accommodation in mining areas make employers hesitant to report job opportunities. Therefore vacancies on file at National Employment Service offices cannot be considered an accurate estimate of the ability of employment in the mining industry to expand. In practically all mining districts, workers with suitable physical qualifications can obtain employment. Shortages of raw materials and skilled labour continue to hamper employment expansion in the construction industry. Labour needs of the transportation industry were abnormally low for this season because of the strike of the seamen's union.

Logging Labour Requirements High--Labour requirements of the logging industry comprised 10 per cent of jobs reported during June or approximately 3,700 vacancies a week. This represents a slight rise during the month and a 30 per cent increase over labour needs one year earlier. The exceptionally good export market for pulp and paper in the overwhelming domestic demand for requirement in construction purposes have provided excellent opportunities for employment expansion in the logging industry. On the other hand, withdrawal of prisoner of war labour and of conscientious objectors, together with the general pressure urging workers to accept farm work, have depleted available labour for woods operations. The customary dovetailing of the labour needs of agriculture and logging cannot be effected at this time. Consequently, it is difficult to obtain labour for the proposed year-round employment in the logging industry. At the end of June, 16,000 men were needed for bush work.

Table I--Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified,
by Province and by Sex, June, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies Notified		
	Male	Female	Total
Canada	26,418	11,276	37,694
Maritime Provinces	1,949	614	2,563
Quebec	5,573	2,008	7,581
Ontario	12,577	5,353	17,930
Prairie Provinces	3,666	1,940	5,606
British Columbia	2,653	1,361	4,014

APPLICANTS REGISTERED
(Reference Table II)

Applicants Registering Rise--There were more applications for employment reported in June than in May. Applications for work during the current period, totalling 38,000 per week, approximately equalled the number of job-seekers registered in February, the seasonal low-point in employment. Applications of insured workers, rose by slightly more than 2,000 per week during June. The rise may be attributed largely to the increase in the male applicants in Ontario and female applicants in Quebec. Strike-bound textile plants and seamen on strike seeking temporary employment account for much of the increase during June. The number of non-insured female workers rose markedly as the completion of the school term resulted in an influx of new entrants and temporary job-seekers into the labour market.

Unemployment Continues to Decline--Unemployment continued to fall, despite the additional number of job-seekers registering for work at National Employment Service offices during June. Workers were steadily absorbed into industry both by placement of the Employment Service and by seeking work on their own. Unemployment, as measured by the number of unplaced applicants, totalled 179,000 at the end of June, a drop of 15 per cent from that reported one month earlier.

Survey of Unemployed--A survey of the applicants who had not been referred to specific jobs at the end of June indicates several important facts:

- (1) Fewer applicants were covered by unemployment insurance at the end of June than one month earlier, the greatest percentage drop being for women. At the end of June 66 per cent of the unplaced men and 59 per cent of the unemployed women were claiming benefits.
- (2) Eleven per cent of the unplaced men were 65 years of age or older. This age group was almost completely covered by unemployment insurance. Consequently, many of these applicants represent older members of the labour force who were drawn into the labour market during the war and may be expected to withdraw upon the exhaustion of their unemployment insurance.

- (3) Female applicants represent a younger section of the labour force. Eighty-nine per cent of the women not referred to jobs were under 45 years of age; of these, more than 20 per cent were under 20. Completion of the school year accounts for the large percentage of young applicants at this time.
- (4) In contrast, 70 per cent of the unreferred male applicants were under 45. An above-average younger section was reported in electrical, truck driving, auto mechanics and heavy labour occupations. This group illustrates those who acquired skills while in the armed-services. In many cases, however, the training is not sufficient to meet the exacting qualifications presently required by employers. Older men were prevalent in the service, textile, printing, construction and light labour trades.
- (5) Eighty per cent of the unreferred metalworkers were collecting unemployment insurance as compared with the average of all unreferred applicants, of whom 69 per cent claimed benefits. It thus appears that many metalworkers will hold out for jobs utilizing the wartime skills until their benefits are exhausted. At that time, many of the women registered for metalwork may withdraw from the labour market. Since almost three-quarters of the men registered as metalworkers are under 45 years of age, eventually they will have to be absorbed into alternative occupations where employment opportunities are greater.

More Applicants Than Jobs Reported—Applications for work outnumbered vacancies reported during June, whereas during the previous two months, jobs filed were well in excess of the number seeking work. The effect of labour strife is reflected in the marked deterioration evident in the British Columbia employment situation, while the comparatively tranquil labour relations in the Maritime provinces have resulted in a steady improvement there.

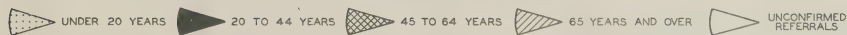
Table II—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified and Applicants Registered, by Province, during June, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

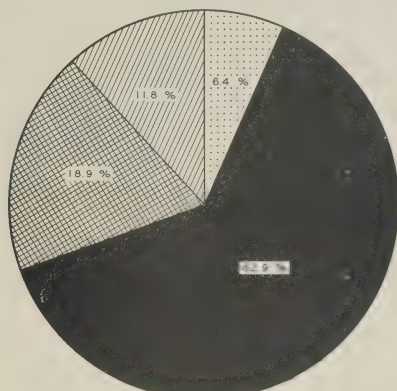
Province	Average Weekly Vacancies		Average Weekly Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Canada	37,694	100	38,205	100
Maritime Provinces	2,563	7	3,110	8
Quebec	7,581	20	8,491	23
Ontario	17,930	47	14,625	38
Prairie Provinces	5,606	15	6,568	17
British Columbia	4,014	11	5,411	14

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF UNREFERRED APPLICANTS IN CANADA

AS AT JUNE 27, 1946

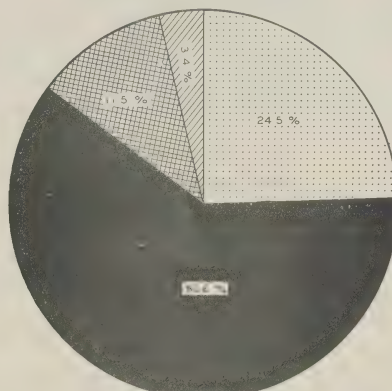


AGE DISTRIBUTION
TOTAL CLAIMANTS



TOTAL UNREFERRED APPLICANTS 113,456

AGE DISTRIBUTION
TOTAL NON-CLAIMANTS



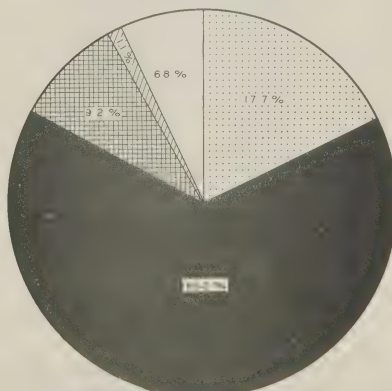
TOTAL UNREFERRED APPLICANTS 50,794

AGE DISTRIBUTION
MALE UNPLACED APPLICANTS



TOTAL UNPLACED APPLICANTS 139,977

AGE DISTRIBUTION
FEMALE UNPLACED APPLICANTS



TOTAL UNPLACED APPLICANTS 36,758

REFERRALS (Reference Table III and Table VII)

Volume of Referrals Unchanged—Referral activity during June showed little change from that reported during the previous month but was 32 per cent below the level effected last year. A decline in referrals in the logging, mining, and chemical manufacturing industries during the month was offset by substantial increases in the food processing, pulp and paper manufacturing, and finance establishments. The changing pattern of referrals effected reflects the varying stages of seasonal activity within the industry groups.

Referrals Per Job Available Vary by Industry—Out of every 100 jobs available during June, including those on file at the beginning of the month, 41 referrals were effected. The logging, textile, leather and rubber firms report a well-below-average number of referrals effected in relation to jobs available, the ratio being 10, 21, 25 and 33 respectively for every 100 vacancies. Applicants, generally, are reluctant to accept work in these industries, especially with the easy labour market conditions prevailing in alternative fields. On the other hand, referrals per job available are high in trade, construction and durable goods manufacturing industries.

Table III—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Referrals by Sex,
From June, 1945, to June, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Month	Male	Female	Total
June 1945	30,499	9,755	40,254
July "	28,217	7,885	36,102
August "	29,431	7,943	37,374
September "	31,653	9,303	40,956
October "	31,197	8,924	40,121
November "	28,238	8,669	36,907
December "	16,198	5,448	21,646
January 1946	12,949	6,795	19,744
February "	12,924	6,725	19,649
March "	14,547	7,400	21,947
April "	18,742	7,286	26,028
May "	20,224	7,683	27,907
June "	19,416	7,868	27,284

PLACEMENTS (Reference Table IV and Table VIII)

Volume of Placements Remains Stationary—Placements effected during June maintained the level reached in May, despite the current decline in jobs reported. Placements declined markedly in the logging and transportation industries and in the lumber, iron and steel manufacturing plants. This reflects the labour unrest. There were, however, substantial increases in the number of workers placed in the seasonally active food processing plants and in the thriving pulp and paper mills. Considerable expansion of placements in finance and insurance firms occurred in

June, probably indicating the absorption of the urgently required stenographers and typists upon their completion of school courses.

Referrals to Placements—The percentage of referrals resulting in placements remained unchanged in June as compared with the previous month, but of every 100 referrals, 64 placements were effected.

Table IV—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Placements
By Sex, from June, 1945 to June, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Month		Male	Female	Total
June	1945	22,874	7,161	30,035
July	"	21,396	5,469	26,865
August	"	20,766	5,093	25,859
September	"	24,239	5,972	30,211
October	"	23,621	5,379	29,000
November	"	22,823	5,307	28,130
December	"	13,765	3,703	17,468
January	1946	9,177	3,763	12,940
February	"	8,643	3,816	12,459
March	"	9,812	4,159	13,971
April	"	11,871	4,059	15,930
May	"	13,598	4,387	17,985
June	"	12,682	4,686	17,368

Executive and Professional Offices—(Reference Table V) Wide-spread publicity campaigns have been launched to publicize the facilities offered by the Executive and Professional offices. There now are excellent employment opportunities at high salaries available in many fields. Many of the applicants registering, however, cannot meet hiring specifications. It is encouraging to note that applications increased during June. Some workers were endeavouring to better their present employment while others were seeking work in other localities. In addition, a substantial influx of teachers, followed the termination of the school year. Fewer vacancies were reported in June than in May. Many establishments were reluctant to advance expansion programs necessitating an increased executive and professional staff in the face of troubled labour-management relations and the uncertainty of obtaining necessary raw materials. By the end of June, there were 1,152 positions available with unplaced applicants numbering 2,529.

Referrals of Executive and Professional applicants rose by 18 per cent during June while placements levelled off. There were, however, 357 referrals whose placement had not been confirmed at the end of June, a noticeable increase over the number reported one month earlier.

Table V—Average Weekly Placement Operations of Executive and Professional Offices During June, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Office	Applications	Vacancies	Referrals	Placements
Total	318	176	263	58
Moncton	64	11	7	4
Montreal	91	49	55	17
Toronto	98	84	144	25
Winnipeg	20	15	27	5
Vancouver	45	17	30	7

Employment Servicing of Handicapped Workers—Despite the fact that placement of handicapped workers rose to the October peak during the period May 15 - June 14, unemployment increased in this section. The rise in unemployment took place largely in Quebec, due to the increased number of older men looking for work. Local offices report that this class of worker is more difficult to place than a young man with a serious disability. The all-out campaign of special placement officers in the Maritime and Prairie provinces resulted in a decided increase in placements with a corresponding decline in unemployment. There were 1,244 (967 male and 277 female) handicapped workers placed from May 15 - June 14. At the middle of June, unemployed handicapped workers numbered 6,770 as compared with 6,346 one month earlier.

ENGAGEMENTS WITHOUT REFERRAL
(Reference Table VI and Table X)

Engagements Without Referral Exceed Placements—With the high level of economic activity throughout the country, job-seekers are tending to by-pass the Employment Service. This is particularly noticeable in the logging and transportation industries. Widespread campaigns are conducted by woods operators to recruit labour. Consequently, engagements without referral far out-number those placed by the Employment Service. Practically no workers were placed by employment offices in water transportation industries during June because of the strike of the seamen's union. A substantial number of workers, however, got jobs by their own efforts in this industry. This is probably due to the fact that companies brought in outside help. A larger number of job-seekers not using the Employment Service obtain employment in the manufacturing industries than are placed by the local offices. In these industries particularly, many employers are "making" jobs for promising workers who have contacted them personally.

Total Decline Despite Rise for Women—Fewer workers received jobs without referral by employment offices in June than in May. The drop was confined entirely to men. Engagements of women without referral continued to increase. Industries primarily employing men, namely logging, construction and lumber manufacturing, showed marked declines in engagements without referral. Increases were reported in food processing and pulp and paper manufacturing industries.

Table VI—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Engagements Without Referral,
by Province and by Sex, June, 1946

(Source Form UIC 751B)

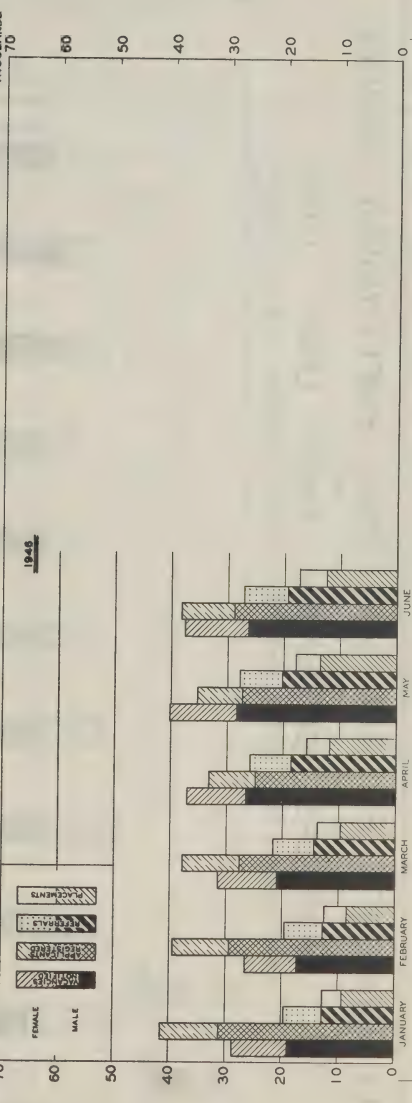
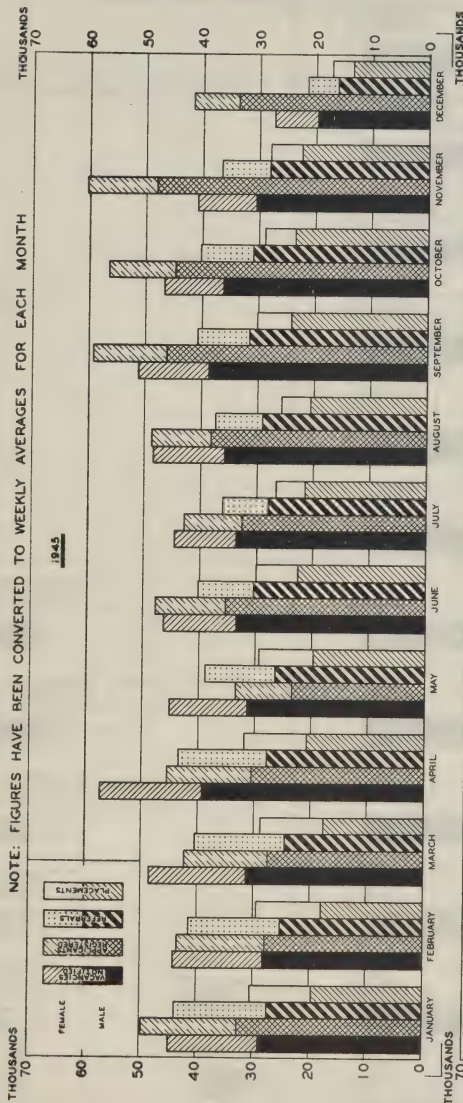
Province	Average Weekly Engagements		
	Male	Female	Total
Canada	18,639	7,241	25,880
Maritime Provinces	1,667	359	2,026
Quebec	6,265	2,084	8,349
Ontario	6,147	2,903	9,050
Prairie Provinces	2,568	1,154	3,722
British Columbia	1,992	741	2,733

SEPARATIONS
(Reference - Table XI)

Separation Rate Drops Slightly—Non-agricultural separations totalled 28,000 a week in June as compared with 30,000 one month previous and 34,000 one year previous. Fewer workers left the logging camps, food processing, and textile plants and lumber manufacturing industries during the month. As compared with last year, separations are substantially higher in the mining and construction industries, although separations for all industries are 18 per cent below the figure reported at June, 1945.

OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ON A COMPARATIVE MONTHLY BASIS

NOTE: FIGURES HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH



PLACEMENTS BY THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AS COMPARED WITH WORKERS OBTAINING THEIR OWN JOBS

NOTE: FIGURES HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH

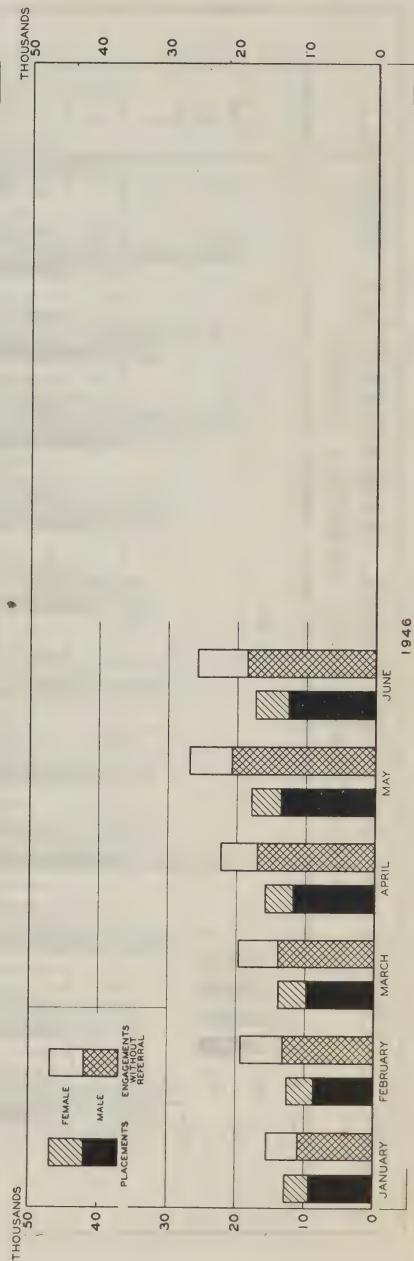
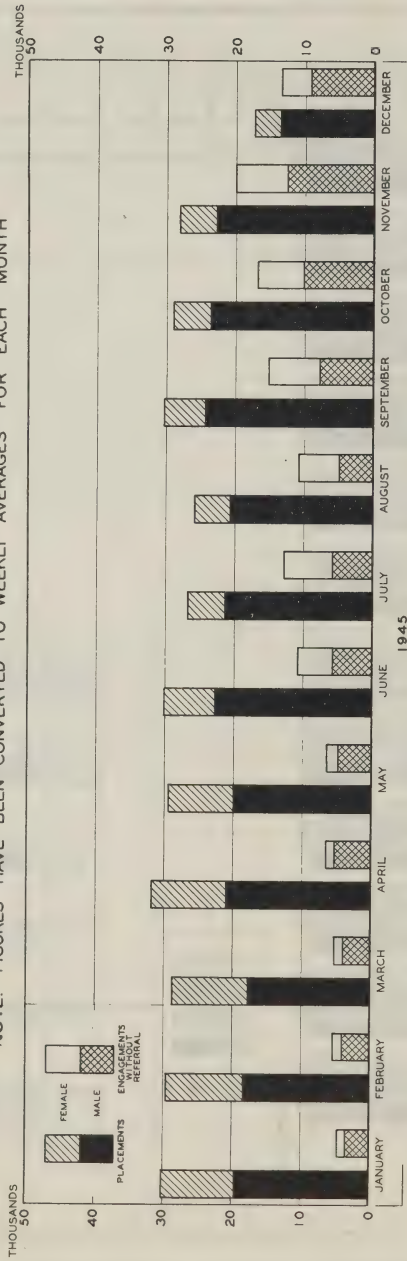


Table VII--Non-agricultural Vacancies Notified as Reported by the
National Employment Service, June, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Vacancies During Month	Average Weekly Vacancies		
		Number	% Change From	
			May 1946	June 1945
All industries.....	150,777	37,694	- 6.0	-19.0
Logging.....	14,959	3,740	1.2	31.4
Mining.....	4,096	1,024	-18.8	-23.4
Manufacturing.....	47,312	11,828	- 6.9	-31.3
Food and kindred products.....	7,728	1,932	2.4	-27.2
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	7,194	1,798	-24.9	-18.3
Lumber and finished lumber products...	5,678	1,420	4.3	-22.8
Pulp and paper products and printing..	5,275	1,319	15.1	-14.8
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,517	379	-20.2	-37.5
Products of petroleum and coal.....	360	90	12.5	-50.0
Rubber goods.....	1,115	279	-31.6	-32.6
Leather and products.....	1,016	254	-39.7	-29.1
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,727	432	5.6	- 5.5
Iron and steel and their products.....	4,097	1,024	- 9.4	-48.6
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,981	495	2.1	-10.8
Machinery.....	4,133	1,033	1.0	-19.9
Transportation equipment.....	3,647	912	-14.6	-65.5
Miscellaneous.....	1,844	461	8.7	- 3.8
Construction.....	21,263	5,316	- 6.1	- 2.0
Transportation and storage.....	7,768	1,942	- 8.1	-48.1
Other public utilities.....	2,232	558	-11.4	- 3.8
Trade.....	14,922	3,730	- 1.9	-30.5
Finance and insurance.....	2,391	598	-12.7	-19.4
Public and professional service.....	10,354	2,588	-10.0	4.3
Other service.....	25,480	6,370	- 4.4	- 6.5

Table VIII--Non-agricultural Referrals as Reported by the
National Employment Service, June, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Refer- rals During Month	Average Weekly Referrals		
		Number	% Change From	
			May 1946	June 1945
All industries.....	109,137	27,284	- 2.2	-32.2
Logging.....	2,724	681	-17.6	-68.5
Mining.....	3,313	828	-14.1	-13.4
Manufacturing.....	35,169	8,792	0.3	-41.1
Food and kindred products.....	6,214	1,554	13.7	-32.4
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	4,496	1,124	- 0.7	-26.1
Lumber and finished lumber products...	3,889	972	- 7.6	-39.6
Pulp and paper products and printing..	3,479	870	18.2	-34.5
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,293	323	-23.1	-41.7
Products of petroleum and coal.....	318	79	- 7.1	-59.9
Rubber goods.....	738	184	4.5	-46.4
Leather and products.....	739	185	-16.7	-27.5
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,444	361	- 7.7	-11.5
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,518	880	- 8.6	-51.3
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,424	356	- 4.8	-35.3
Machinery.....	3,589	897	13.7	-20.2
Transportation equipment.....	2,715	679	-11.8	-73.2
Miscellaneous.....	1,313	328	15.1	-16.8
Construction.....	17,438	4,360	- 5.8	- 1.0
Transportation and storage.....	5,346	1,336	- 8.9	-66.4
Other public utilities.....	1,428	357	- 2.5	-40.9
Trade.....	14,528	3,652	0.7	-28.0
Finance and insurance.....	2,110	528	12.3	-20.8
Public and professional service.....	8,487	2,122	- 1.2	- 5.4
Other service.....	18,594	4,648	- 0.4	-12.1

Table ~~IX~~ Non-agricultural Placements as Reported by the
National Employment Service, June, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Place- ments During Month	Average Weekly Placements		
		Number	% Change From	
			May 1946	June 1945
All industries.....	69,473	17,368	-3.4	-42.2
Logging.....	2,288	572	-28.6	-72.2
Mining.....	2,698	674	- 4.8	-11.1
Manufacturing.....	20,808	5,202	- 2.3	-51.8
Food and kindred products.....	3,566	891	11.2	-43.4
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	2,821	705	8.8	-35.3
Lumber and finished lumber products...	2,488	622	-19.3	-51.0
Pulp and paper products and printing..	2,208	552	16.2	-44.1
Chemicals and allied products.....	602	150	-30.9	-58.9
Products of petroleum and coal.....	134	33	-17.5	-75.2
Rubber goods.....	489	122	3.4	-52.9
Leather and products.....	402	101	- 1.0	-44.8
Stone, clay and glass products.....	808	202	-11.8	-27.1
Iron and steel and their products.....	1,974	493	- 9.9	-63.3
Non-ferrous metals.....	822	206	-14.5	-44.5
Machinery.....	1,910	478	9.4	-36.3
Transportation equipment.....	1,914	479	-14.0	-75.1
Miscellaneous.....	670	168	17.5	-38.7
Construction.....	12,536	3,134	- 2.5	-10.4
Transportation and storage.....	3,363	841	-15.0	-71.0
Other public utilities.....	1,006	252	- 0.8	-42.1
Trade.....	7,726	1,931	- 1.0	-43.0
Finance and insurance.....	930	232	14.9	-47.0
Public and professional service.....	5,571	1,393	- 4.0	-21.9
Other service.....	12,547	3,137	1.6	-21.1

Table X—Non-agricultural Engagements Without Referral as Reported
by the National Employment Service, June, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B).

Industry	Number of Engage- ments During Month	Average Weekly Engagements		
		Number	% Change From	
			May 1946	June 1945
All industries.....	103,520	25,880	- 3.5	139.5
Logging.....	7,880	1,995	-34.1	117.3
Mining.....	3,618	904	- 1.9	147.0
Manufacturing.....	34,465	8,616	- 0.2	133.1
Food and kindred products.....	5,799	1,450	13.5	130.9
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	4,887	1,222	2.3	96.5
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	4,099	1,025	-13.6	75.8
Pulp and paper products and printing....	3,753	938	11.8	158.4
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,112	278	- 7.3	104.4
Products of petroleum and coal.....	359	90	-11.8	181.3
Rubber goods.....	739	185	3.4	311.1
Leather and products.....	1,159	290	3.2	173.6
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,267	316	3.3	295.0
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,032	758	11.6	138.4
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,162	290	-11.9	271.8
Machinery.....	2,388	597	-12.7	191.2
Transportation equipment.....	3,309	827	-15.1	128.5
Miscellaneous.....	1,400	350	15.1	153.6
Construction.....	13,431	3,358	-10.2	461.5
Transportation and storage.....	6,917	1,729	- 7.9	122.2
Other public utilities.....	2,325	581	2.3	197.9
Trade.....	11,582	2,896	7.3	73.5
Finance and insurance.....	1,958	490	17.2	69.6
Public and professional service.....	8,689	2,172	3.4	208.5
Other service.....	12,555	3,139	10.8	96.8

Table XI--Non-agricultural Separations as Reported by the
National Employment Service, June, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Separ- ations During Month	Average Weekly Separations		
		Number	% Change From	
			May 1946	June 1945
All industries.....	113,485	28,371	- 4.9	-17.6
Logging.....	6,627	1,657	-38.1	-34.6
Mining.....	4,017	1,004	- 0.3	48.3
Manufacturing.....	46,059	11,515	- 7.1	-38.2
Food and kindred products.....	5,908	1,477	-10.4	-18.0
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	6,978	1,744	- 9.3	4.0
Lumber and finished lumber products....	4,411	1,103	-16.6	- 6.7
Pulp and paper products and printing...	3,600	900	-	3.1
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,850	463	6.7	-71.7
Products of petroleum and coal.....	381	95	-28.0	- 6.9
Rubber goods.....	1,243	311	- 7.5	9.9
Leather and products.....	1,377	344	-11.1	45.1
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,386	347	- 2.8	52.9
Iron and steel and their products.....	4,369	1,092	-13.5	-72.6
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,745	436	-11.0	-25.0
Machinery.....	4,923	1,231	7.2	2.7
Transportation equipment.....	6,060	1,515	- 5.1	-51.4
Miscellaneous.....	1,828	457	- 0.4	37.2
Construction.....	14,905	3,726	11.3	64.4
Transportation and storage.....	7,298	1,824	- 4.7	-19.9
Other public utilities.....	1,534	383	5.2	28.5
Trade.....	12,903	3,226	0.5	- 3.3
Finance and insurance.....	1,876	469	0.4	1.1
Public and professional service.....	7,520	1,880	- 1.3	-16.0
Other service.....	10,746	2,687	5.2	-13.9

PART II

DEMOBILIZATION AND RECONVERSION

Section I:--ACTIVITIES OF EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

Demobilization Tapers Off--Demobilization continued to slacken during June. There were 23,000 service personnel released from the armed services in June compared with 38,000 in the previous month.

Fewer ex-servicemen sought work at National Employment offices during June than in May. This resulted in a corresponding decrease in the number of placements effected. Similarly, the reinstatement of ex-service personnel declined markedly during the month.

Unemployment among ex-servicemen has been steadily tapering off during the past few months. During June, a substantial drop took place in the number of persons receiving out-of-work benefits. The occupational classification of unplaced ex-service personnel at the end of June revealed a decline in the percentage registered in unskilled work and a slight rise in the percentage seeking "white-collar" jobs.

DISCHARGES

Volume of Discharges Dwindles--Demobilization is now nearing completion. During June, 23,000 service personnel were released, bringing the total number discharged since the beginning of the war to 927,000. At the end of June, the effective strength of the armed forces totalled 98,000. This figure excludes deserters, those missing, those on extended leave and those seconded. The impact of future demobilization should not seriously affect the labour market since the strength of the permanent force is estimated at 50,000.

Service-women comprised 42,000 of the total number of discharges. Dispersion of ex-service women into civilian employment has progressed very satisfactorily. At the end of June, fewer than 6,000 women remained in the armed services. Table I shows discharges, by months, January, 1945, to June, 1946, inclusive.

Table I--Number Discharged from Armed Forces, by Months
January, 1945 to June, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence)

Month	Navy	Army	Air Force	Total
January, 1945.....	588	3,320	7,850	11,758
February "	592	3,654	8,487	12,733
March "	672	3,249	3,791	7,712
April "	772	4,312	3,236	8,320
May "	657	6,119	3,023	9,799
June "	1,679	10,602	3,040	15,321
July "	3,139	15,393	5,996	24,528
August "	6,679	22,184	8,503	37,366
September "	9,878	34,093	30,773	74,744
October "	14,931	45,994	32,042	92,967
November "	15,712	35,813	13,873	65,398
December "	7,668	22,118	8,454	38,240
January, 1946.....	7,560	40,735	8,554	56,849
February "	7,552	48,665	9,018	65,235
March "	5,493	56,512	8,641	70,646
April "	4,998	44,439	6,325	55,762
May "	2,743	29,728	6,005	38,476
June "	1,768	17,081	4,048	22,897

APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT IN NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OFFICES

Applications for employment of ex-servicemen declined sharply during June in contrast to a noticeable increase in the total number of applicants registering at employment offices. The drop in applications of service personnel was confined largely to applicants of World War II seeking employment for the first time since discharge. The decline in this group reflects the slackening rate of demobilization. Application of ex-service women and service personnel having served in both wars, on the other hand, rose slightly. Applications for employment during June totalled 43,062, a decrease of 12 per cent over the previous month. Forty-four per cent of the applicants seeking employment during June had previously been employed since discharge.

Over 40 per cent of the total number of servicemen discharged from the armed forces have at sometime applied for work at the National Employment Service. Of these, approximately 45 per cent have renewed their applications after having been employed since discharge. Table II shows the total number of discharges and applications of World War II ex-servicemen, by months, August, 1945 to June, 1946 inclusive.

Table II—Discharges from Armed Forces and Applications of World War II Dischargees by Months, August, 1945 to June, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Discharges	Applications	
		New Applicants	Revivals
August, 1945.....	37,366	23,950	10,616
September "	74,744	31,351	12,092
October "	92,967	43,586	18,546
November "	65,398	37,726	20,379
December "	38,240	24,934	16,133
January 1946.....	56,849	27,641	18,568
February "	65,235	25,025	17,075
March "	70,646	30,400	18,271
April "	55,762	26,288	16,874
May "	38,476	25,216	19,807
June "	22,897	20,166	18,961

PLACEMENTS

Sharp Upswing in Placement of Handicapped Ex-servicemen—Placement of ex-service personnel comprised 31 per cent of total placements effected during June. This percentage represents a decided drop from that reported in May. A decline could be expected, however, with the greater-than-normal drop in the number of ex-service personnel seeking employment during the month. Placement of ex-servicemen totalled 23,654 in June as compared with 28,522 during May. At the end of June, there were 5,277 veterans referred to specific jobs but notification as to their placement or rejection by the employer had not yet been received. Placement of handicapped ex-service personnel increased markedly from May 15 to June 14 as compared with the previous period. Placements by National Employment Service offices rose from 444 during the previous reporting period to 576 during the current period. In addition to the latter total, 117 handicapped ex-servicemen also received positions through the Casualty Rehabilitation Officers in the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Twenty-one per cent of the total of ex-servicemen unplaced at the beginning of the month and those making application during the month, were placed during June. For the first time since August, 1945, the corresponding percentage for civilian applicants equalled that reported for ex-servicemen. With the prevailing easier labour market conditions, more ex-servicemen are getting jobs through their own efforts. Since ex-service personnel represent the younger, more employable section of the labour force, they can more easily obtain positions without the aid of the Employment Service than can civilians. Figures on applications and placements are shown in Table III.

Table III--Live Applications and Placements of Ex-Servicemen,
with Civilian Comparison, August, 1945 to June, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B and Form U.I.C. 751B)

Month	Live Applications (1)	Placements (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent (3)	Civilian Equivalents of (3)
August, 1945.....	53,963	22,541	41.8	41.6
September "	69,292	29,321	42.3	38.4
October "	98,125	38,298	39.0	34.3
November "	106,955	38,674	36.2	29.5
December "	93,652	26,653	28.5	21.4
January, 1946.....	98,002	19,454	19.9	15.7
February "	106,295	16,831	15.8	12.9
March "	125,474	21,228	16.9	14.7
April "	130,062	25,505	19.6	17.2
May "	130,206	28,522	21.9	19.6
June "	115,432	23,654	20.5	20.5

REINSTATEMENTS

With demobilization steadily declining, fewer ex-servicemen are being reinstated in civil employment. Reinstatements during June totalled 7,665 bringing to 150,895 the total number re-established in their pre-war jobs since August 1, 1945. During this period, reinstatements represent approximately 24 per cent of the total number of discharges. Table IV shows cumulative discharges and reinstatements, monthly, August, 1945 to June, 1946.

Table IV--Cumulative Discharges and Reinstatements
Monthly, August, 1945 to June, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 8212)

	Cumulative Discharges since Aug. 1, 1945 (1)	Cumulative Reinstatements since Aug. 1, 1945 (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
August 31, 1945.....	37,366	2,828	7.6
September 30, "	112,110	12,264	10.9
October 31, "	205,077	30,307	14.8
November 30, "	270,475	48,017	17.8
December 31, "	308,715	60,320	19.5
January 31, 1946.....	365,564	77,648	21.2
February 28, "	430,799	95,013	22.1
March 31, "	501,445	114,147	22.7
April 30, "	557,207	131,127	23.5
May 31, "	595,683	143,230	24.0
June 30, "	618,580	150,895	24.4

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment Among Veterans is on the Downgrade—Unemployment among ex-service personnel continued to decline rapidly during June. At the end of June, 61,168 ex-servicemen were registered as unplaced applicants in National Employment Service offices as compared with 72,370 one month earlier. The rate of decline in unemployment among ex-servicemen was equal to that reported for total unemployment during the same month. Unplaced ex-servicemen represented 34 per cent of all unplaced applicants at the end of June. Of the unemployed ex-servicemen, 44,587 or 73 per cent had been registered for 15 days or more. Table V shows total unplaced ex-servicemen and those unplaced 15 days or more, from May 31, 1945 to June 30, 1946.

Table V—Unplaced Ex-Servicemen and Those Unplaced 15 Days or More as at the End of the Month, May, 1945 to June, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Date		Unplaced Ex-servicemen (1)	Ex-servicemen Unplaced 15 Days or More (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
May	31, 1945.....	10,614	(a)	(a)
June	30, "	12,013	(a)	(a)
July	31, "	13,673	(a)	(a)
August	31, "	18,956	5,599	29.5
September	30, "	27,770	10,098	36.4
October	31, "	40,780	13,977	34.3
November	30, "	46,503	20,775	44.7
December	31, "	45,974	27,887	60.7
January	31, 1946.....	59,361	37,364	62.4
February	28, "	72,305	50,286	69.5
March	31, "	83,029	61,018	73.5
April	30, "	81,207	61,292	75.5
May	31, "	72,370	52,722	72.9
June	30, "	61,168	44,587	72.9

(a) Figures not available.

Eighty-six per cent of all the unplaced ex-servicemen at June 30 served in World War II only. Of the latter group, 18,948 had been previously employed since discharge. There were, therefore, 33,875 or 55 percent of the total seeking employment for the first time since discharge.

The number of ex-servicemen receiving out-of-work benefits declined during June, but at a slower rate than the drop in unemployment. At the end of June, 35,673 ex-service personnel were receiving out-of-work allowances as compared with 40,699 four weeks earlier. Table VI shows the number of ex-servicemen receiving out-of-work benefits as at the end of the month, August, 1945 to June, 1946.

Table VI—Ex-Service Personnel Receiving Out-of-Work Benefits
as at the End of the Month, August, 1945 to June, 1946

(Source: Department of Veterans Affairs)

Date		Number "On Benefits"
August	31, 1945.....	606
September	30, ".....	725
October	31, ".....	1,300
November	30, ".....	2,853
December	31, ".....	8,549
January	31, 1946.....	21,698
February	28, ".....	32,817
March	31, ".....	43,524
April	27, ".....	49,552
June	1, ".....	40,699
June	29, ".....	35,673

OCCUPATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

Changing Occupational Pattern Evident—The occupational classification of unplaced ex-service personnel changed slightly during June. The percentage registered as unskilled dropped by 1.2 points. This decline was offset by a noticeable increase in the percentage seeking clerical and sales work. At the end of June, 35 per cent were classified as skilled and semiskilled and 34 per cent as unskilled. The occupational classification of civilians, on the other hand, reveals that only 27 per cent of the unplaced are skilled or semi-skilled while 40 per cent are registered as unskilled.

The opportunities offered by the Canadian Vocational Training program continue to attract ex-servicemen. Approximately 76,000 have been enrolled since the start of the program. During June, 6,000 veterans, primarily from vocational training schools, were released into the labour market. The number receiving "on-the-job" training, on the other hand, showed a marked increase. The number in training at the end of June reached the 10,000 mark. Table VII shows the percentage distribution, by occupational groups, of unplaced ex-servicemen as at selected dates.

APPLICANTS AND PLACEMENTS EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

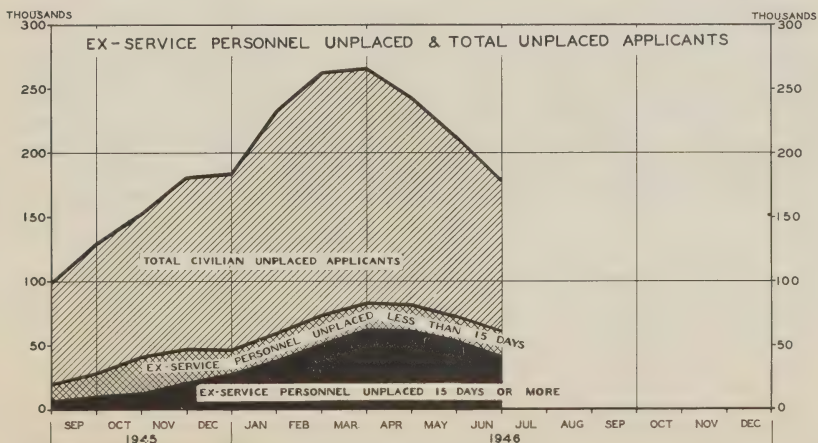
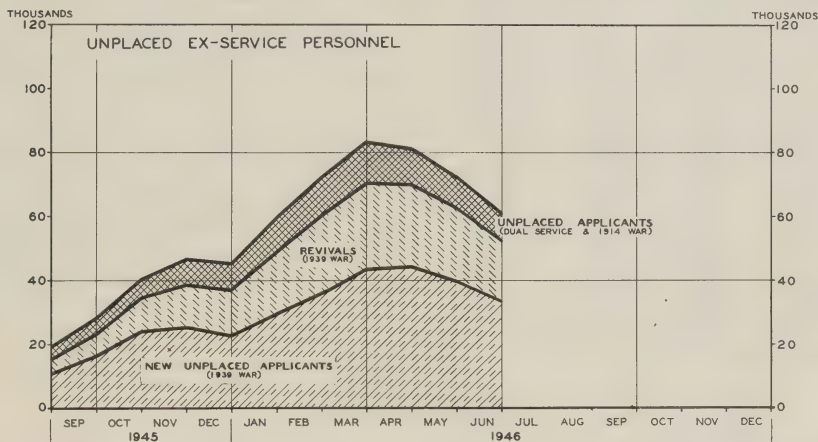
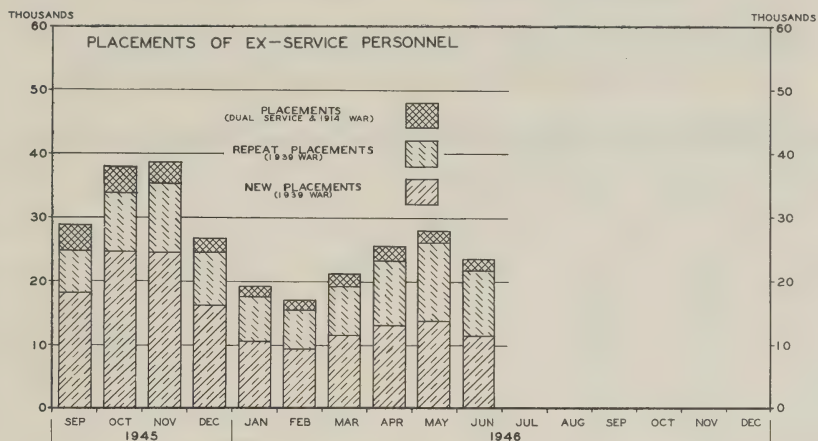


Table VII—Percentage Distribution of Occupational Categories of Unplaced Ex-Service Personnel as at Selected Dates, November, 1945, February, 1946, May, 1946 and June, 1946

(Source: Forms U.I.C. 757 and 759 for Ex-Service Personnel)

Occupational Group	Nov. 30 1945	Feb. 28 1946	May 31 1946	June 30 1946
Professional and managerial workers..	6.4	4.5	5.4	5.6
Clerical workers.....	10.5	9.7	10.1	10.8
Sales workers.....	7.0	6.2	5.8	6.1
Service workers.....	5.1	5.2	5.1	5.3
Agricultural workers.....	1.7	2.4	2.8	2.7
Fishermen.....	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.6
Skilled and semi-skilled workers.....	35.7	36.9	35.2	35.1
Food products.....	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Textiles, clothing, etc.....	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4
Lumber and wood products.....	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.2
Pulp and paper products.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Printing.....	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Leather and products.....	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3
Stone, clay and glass.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Electrical.....	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.3
Mining and quarrying.....	0.7	0.4	0.5	0.5
Construction workers.....	4.6	5.4	3.3	3.2
Metalworkers.....	6.6	6.1	5.6	5.5
Miscellaneous.....	19.6	21.2	21.8	21.7
Unskilled workers.....	33.5	34.7	35.0	33.8
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

FUTURE PROSPECTS

The impact of demobilization upon the labour market has almost been spent. At the end of June, the effective strength of the armed forces totalled 98,000. The rate of discharge in the future should not exceed 15,000 per month. Since the peak in seasonal activity is normally reached in September, the absorption of ex-servicemen into the labour market should be almost complete before the winter slump in employment occurs. There will however, continue to be a steady flow of ex-service personnel into the labour market from vocational training schools and universities during the next few years.

PART III

AREA ANALYSIS

Section I--REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following regional analysis deals with the current labour demand-supply situation in each of the five regions, Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies and Pacific. A special study of the economic background, wartime development and postwar problems of one region is also presented each month. In this issue, the study of the Quebec region forms the second of the series.

Table I--Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants at July 25,
By Region

(Source: Advance Report on Labour Demand & Supply, Research & Statistics Branch)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Maritimes.....	4,500	2,300	6,800	20,600	2,600	23,200
Quebec.....	18,900	17,000	35,900	35,300	10,400	45,700
Ontario.....	22,900	15,200	38,100	35,500	11,700	47,200
Prairies.....	13,500	5,100	18,600	21,100	6,600	27,700
Pacific.....	6,500	2,700	9,200	19,500	4,000	23,500
Canada.....	66,300	42,300	108,600	32,000	35,300	167,300

MARITIME REGION

Lack of Experienced Labour Curbs Maritime Industries—In the Maritime region, the basic industries, coal mining, lumbering and fishing, are suffering from a lack of experienced men. Two hundred and fifty first-class miners are needed in the coal industry. A partial remedy of the shortage may be achieved by the Dominion Coal Company's school, which aims to train men in six months instead of two years, for their first-class miner's papers. The number of men available for hire is increasing in the lumber industry, but will be of little help in filling orders which demand experienced labour. Only fair progress has been made by a recently established training course to alleviate the scarcity of experienced men in fish-processing plants.

Material Shortages Cut into Industrial Progress—Manufacturing in the Maritimes is feeling the effect of the strike in the Sydney steel plant. Companies in Saint John, Moncton, Halifax and elsewhere, are reducing their staffs and may even find it necessary to close their plants if shipments of steel products are not forthcoming in the near future. Shortages of fats in biscuit manufacturing, of oils and pigments in paint manufacturing, of cotton in textile manufacturing, hinder employment expansion. Shortages of shovels, picks and other instruments, in addition to the general shortage of building materials, are curtailing progress and employment in the construction industry. The abnormally heavy influx of tourists has caused a large demand for service workers in hotels and restaurants. These vacancies have been difficult to fill, but almost all other labour demand is readily met, where a high degree of training is not required.

QUEBEC REGION

Diversification in the Quebec Area—In the Quebec region, three distinct economies exist, each with its own specific problems.

The prosperity of the Montreal metropolitan area depends largely upon national policies, as this immense port is an integral part of Canada's international trading system. Metropolitan Montreal contains almost 40 per cent of the population of the province. The area north of the St. Lawrence supports huge, scattered, highly mechanized pulp and paper and metallurgical plants, the latter use local hydro-electric power to process local resources. External markets affect the prosperity of this region. The third area comprises the pioneer subsistence agricultural sections. Mixed farming, usually combined with seasonal forestry and fishing, and with handicrafts, is the chief occupation of the habitants.

Quebec Leads in Urbanization—Since World War I, increasing urbanization and the rapid expansion of the metropolitan area has reflected the growing concentration of manufacturing, commerce and finance. Between 1921 and 1931, the urban population of Quebec province rose from 56 to 63 per cent. Agriculture declined. Migration from the country to the city was so great that the number of farms and the area of improved land actually decreased, despite the encouragement to colonization made by the Church.

Montreal an Industrial and Financial Hub of Canadian Economy—Quebec became the most highly-urbanized province in Canada. Montreal grew in population by 39 per cent between 1921 and 1931. Technological changes and favourable foreign markets induced the rapid development of forest and mineral resources. This stimulated the region north of the St. Lawrence, and also increased the industrial and financial concentration in the Montreal area.

Montreal Hard Hit by Depression—Montreal with its railway terminals, shipping, manufacturing, financial and distributive facilities, constitutes a storehouse for the great exporting industries of the West, which are the basis of the transcontinental economy. The sharp drop in the purchasing power of that exporting region during the depression, reacted directly and severely upon metropolitan Montreal.

Alternative employment or self-sufficiency was impossible in such a large industrial concentration, and mass unemployment resulted. The burden of unemployment was great. The Dominion and Provincial Governments and the Church

each contributed substantially to the cost of relief during this period, but the brunt of the burden was born by municipal governments. Relief was largely responsible for the rise in the municipal debt of Montreal from \$252 million to \$345 million between 1930 and 1937.

Municipalities and the Church Carry Bulk of Responsibility—The municipal authority is very responsible in Quebec. So long as national policies favour the metropolitan area, and expanding markets are developing the northern region, the Provincial Government has tended to let these regions support the agricultural sector. Thus provincial programs dealing with public welfare and public utilities are not as common as in other provinces. Municipal authorities and the Church have taken over much of the Provincial Government's responsibility.

Consumer Goods Manufacturing Predominates—Manufacturing is concerned chiefly with production of consumer goods. Industries such as clothing, cotton textiles, boots and shoes, and tobacco, are the main sources of peacetime employment, and require a large supply of labour. However, considerable progress has also been made in the processing of natural products with the hydro-electric power.

Large Scale Wartime Industrial Expansion—The war brought tremendous industrial expansion, particularly in the shipbuilding, munitions, chemicals and non-ferrous metal industries. Nearly all of the wartime increase in employment occurred between the summer of 1940 and the end of 1942. A more gradual increase brought employment to a peak of 631,700 in December 1943, a gain of 57.5 per cent over the 401,120 workers recorded in September 1939. This equalled the wartime increase of Ontario and was slightly greater than the general increase. The post-war low in employment occurred in February 1945, when workers totalled 526,500, a decline of 16.7 per cent from the wartime peak.

Employment in vehicle production (chiefly shipbuilding) increased from 12,624 in September, 1939, to 82,032 in July, 1943. Workers in munitions, chemicals and non-ferrous metals numbered 18,795 in September 1939, and 92,014 in July, 1943. A great influx of workers to the industrial centres speeded up the normal peacetime trend from rural to urban areas. In many centres, these war industries were a mushroom growth with no pre-war background of civilian production. With the end of the war, these plants closed down completely, creating large surpluses of labour.

Immediate mass reconversion of war plants was therefore not so extensive in the Quebec region as in Ontario, and shortages of parts and equipment needed in reconversion were not as acute. The return to peacetime production largely concerned industries such as clothing and foodstuffs, where the main problem diverting goods from military to civilian channels, rather than re-tooling factories. Existing material shortages result chiefly from the export controls of other countries. The clothing and leather goods industries were particularly affected.

Rate of Unemployment Decline Greatest in Quebec—Unemployment is declining more rapidly in Quebec than elsewhere. Unplaced applicants have fallen by 39,000; that is, from 85,000 to 46,000 in the last five months, as compared with a decline of 33,000 in Ontario during the same period. However, the post-war labour force has expanded less than in Ontario. Withdrawals from the

labour force are much greater in Quebec than elsewhere. This would account for the lesser expansion.

Short Term Future Outlook Optimistic for Quebec—Immediate prospects for the region are bright, once obstacles of labour strife and material bottlenecks are overcome. The intense demand for consumer goods is stimulating industries in the Montreal area. Current prosperity of the Prairie region, sustained by the urgent world need for food products, is further supporting trade activity in the great metropolis. The northern region will benefit by the large-scale development and exploration work now underway with the release of manpower and materials. Large construction projects are opening up throughout the province. The current level of general industrial activity is high, and will be maintained for several years.

The present problem concerns the isolated pockets of unemployment such as exist in Quebec City, Sorel and Valleyfield. The collapse of war industry has left immobile surpluses of labour which cannot be absorbed by the type of local industries now expanding. Overall provincial labour demand in manufacturing is concentrated in the Montreal area, particularly in the female labour field.

The real problem will be faced in a few years time, when Prairie activity slackens as European countries become rehabilitated, and when consumer demand is satisfied. The metropolitan area is extremely vulnerable, and a decided slump will undoubtedly occur. The present period of prosperity is the time for the provincial government to plan for the trouble ahead. Development of the northern area and improvement of rural areas, in an attempt to offset the present dependence on the metropolitan centre, are among the first fundamental steps necessary.

Strike Wave Cripples Industrial Quebec—The current strike situation in Quebec remains decidedly depressing. Labour disputes still exist in the textile industry, and unrest is spreading in the gold mining and steel industries with the recent price-wage developments.

Tight Labour Supply—It is extremely difficult to obtain enough farm workers to meet present haying requirements in the province, but recruiting for farm work in New England has been brisk because of the higher wages offered. All mines in Northwestern Quebec are handicapped by a shortage of labour. Operators are considering a recruiting campaign to train beginners. High labour turnover persists in iron and steel foundries because of the hot weather. Shipbuilding activity is slow. The 10 per cent boost in radio prices will stimulate production; a new radio manufacturing plant is opening in Quebec City. The clothing industry still reports an acute scarcity of sewing machine operators. Wage increases are being sought in the building supply field; it is hoped that they will reduce turnover and improve production. The construction industry is forging ahead. All construction tradesmen are fully employed; labour supply is generally sufficient for present requirements, which are limited by material shortages. Two new training centres have been established to increase the supply of skilled construction tradesmen.

ONTARIO REGION

Industrial Strife Colours Ontario Scene—In the Ontario region, industrial disputes dominate the labour scene. In industries not affected by strike action, seasonal expansion continues. Haying operations have almost been completed, a heavy yield being reported, and grain cutting is commencing. The farm labour supply of western farm workers and students has been augmented by numerous casual workers as a result of the strikes, and is generally sufficient. Pulpwood cutters are still urgently required but few are available; over 5,000 are needed in the Timmins area alone. Orders for miners are being placed in clearance as the local supply in mining districts is not adequate.

Material Shortages Cramp Expansion—Material shortages as a result of strikes in the rubber, steel and brass industries are retarding manufacturing progress. Mass lay-offs are planned in the automobile industry. Foundry labour is in demand; increased wages in some plants may reduce present labour turnover. Heavy industries require machinists and mechanics but will not accept war-trained applicants. The textile industry still needs workers acutely, but few applicants are interested. A high rate of labour turnover exists in the female labour field, as workers shift from job to job. Construction is at a standstill in some areas because of the steel strike, but the overall demand for skilled construction workers - bricklayers, carpenters, electricians - is very high.

PRAIRIE REGION

Seasonal Peak in Prairie Region Calls For Labour Recruits—In the Prairie region, peak demand for agricultural workers will not be reached until the harvest season, but there has been a fairly heavy demand for labour in haying and in rye harvesting. The recruiting of labour for British Columbia and Ontario continues. Over 400 girls have been sent to British Columbia to help with the fruit and vegetable crops, and some 150 girls are being sent from Winnipeg to Ontario, for work in peach canneries. There are still heavy orders for woodsmen at Winnipeg, Port Arthur and Fort William, but most workers are reluctant to accept employment in the woods during the summer months. Skilled labour for pulp and paper plants is difficult to obtain.

Meat packing plants are seeking workers to meet the requirements anticipated for the peak autumn season. A keen demand still exists throughout the region for qualified automotive mechanics and body men. However, many ex-servicemen registered as automotive mechanics find that their training is insufficient to enable them to obtain civilian employment in this trade.

PACIFIC REGION

Strikes Undermine Pacific Industries—In the Pacific region, the coastal logging industry, which has not yet fully recovered from the recent labour dispute, may suffer a second serious set-back if the fire hazard forces a complete closure of all major logging operations. The shortage of labour in the skilled occupations in this industry still exists. The foundry strike, yet unsettled, is affecting production and employment in sawmills and other plants which are dependent on machine shops for repair parts and replacements. A

strike among hard rock miners has brought the gold mining and base metal industries to a standstill, except for operations at Trail and Kimberley which are proceeding under a recently concluded union agreement.

Construction Industry Loses Ground With Skilled Labour Shortage—The road construction program has been hampered by a scarcity of skilled shovel men, grader operators, and "cat" operators. Contractors, especially those working in mountainous country, will take only men with a good deal of experience. Orders for labourers are readily filled. In the construction industry, the demand for skilled labour rises as lumber supplies increase.

Section 2:—AN INTRODUCTION TO THE AREA STUDIES

The area studies have been approached this month from a slightly different point of view. Formerly a brief statement was given of what was happening currently in the labour market in each of forty-one areas. Now we propose to treat certain selected areas in which some common problem pertaining to labour supply and demand exists.

The problem, this month, is that of labour shortage. The term "labour shortage" may be used to cover several different situations. The term generally describes a labour market in which total unfilled vacancies exceed total unplaced applicants. However, just as definite a shortage exists if applicants do not have the qualifications or the skills demanded in the available work. It is of little help to the construction industry, badly in need of labour, that there may be many unemployed moulders, weavers, or clerks.

We have dealt with nine areas. The type and the extent of the labour shortage in these areas is varied. In Toronto there is an extreme shortage of women. This heavily weights the overall figures, obscuring the fact of some unemployment among male workers. A general shortage prevails in London, as in Brantford and in the Kitchener-Waterloo area. In Peterborough, the demand for labour does not lie in those occupations in which there is a surplus of labour. The areas of Sault Ste. Marie and Fort William - Port Arthur show a heavy labour demand in the primary industries, with small demand in manufacturing. Drummondville differs decidedly from the other areas. There are fewer vacancies than applicants for work. Nevertheless, the most important industry of the town, textiles, is handicapped by a continued shortage of labour. Yellowknife, a comparatively new town, has grown to serve the needs of the people attracted by gold in the north. Its life depends on the life of the mines.

In any market, demand attracts supply. The short-run response of supply to demand may be rapid, as in commodity markets, or it may often be sluggish, as in the labour market. Workers move reluctantly from an area of short demand to one of heavy demand. They hesitate to make the break from the old life to the new. Few who have been unemployed for any length of time have the money to move to another town. If there are factors, that make entrance into the new community difficult, the movement of labour will be that much slower. For example, at the present time the housing shortage is an important factor acting as a barrier to the movement of workers into labour shortage areas.

If the shift of labour must be from one occupation to another there will be a delay for retraining. Retraining is often difficult among older workers. Among all workers, downgrading of available labour to meet a shortage in some industry is strongly resisted.

All such factors complicate a quick solution of the labour shortage problem. In the long run, there will be a scaling down of industry's demand for labour. There will also be an increase in attractions, such as higher wages and better working conditions, to draw labour into the area, or occupation.

TORONTO, ONTARIO

Toronto has the most widely diversified manufacturing program of any city in Canada, and is a major industrial and distributing centre as well. Wartime employment, although spread over a number of industries, was most heavily concentrated in munitions and aircraft manufacturing. A decided shift from the manufacturing to the non-manufacturing field has been evident during the past year. Finance, service and construction show the greatest employment gains.

Toronto maintained full employment, (less than 50 unplaced applicants per 1,000 persons employed), throughout the reconversion period because of the diversified nature of its economy. Unemployment among male workers, although not serious, hit its peak at April 1, when male unplaced applicants numbered 15,807 and unfilled vacancies reached 4,517. Unplaced applicants have fallen off sharply since that time, and the number of vacancies has risen steadily. The latest figures available show that as at July 25 there were 10,377 men unplaced as compared with 6,344 unfilled vacancies.

Currently, the strongest demand is for the following types of male workers: sheet metal workers, moulders and core makers, mechanics and repairmen, heavy labourers, light labourers, factory and other. The majority of available applicants are men who are over-age, lack the required skills, or will not accept the prevailing wage rates of jobs in which they could be placed.

The supply of female labour shows a constant decline since the end of the war, and vacancies show a corresponding increase. Vacancies for women outnumber applicants by approximately ten to one. Stenographers, typists, office clerks, sales women, sewing machine operators, and unskilled workers are in greatest demand.

The prevailing shortage of labour is one of the main barriers to industrial expansion. Employers, unable to fill their requirements locally, are blocked from obtaining workers from outside sources by the acute lack of living accommodation in Toronto.

Construction activity has struck a level higher than any reached for a number of years. Building permits issued during May, 1946, were valued at \$2,760,045 as compared with \$1,907,825, the value of permits issued during the same month last year.

The demands of general contractors still cannot be met although manufacturers of building materials have increased their production on a large scale. The steel strike now in progress will cut deeply into the construction industry and cramp general industrial expansion in the Toronto area if it does not meet with an early settlement.

LONDON, ONTARIO

London is a major financial and distributing centre. It ranks second only to Toronto among Canadian cities which have the greatest diversification of manufacturing industry. In 1939, the principal manufacturing industries in order of importance were as follows: food products, iron and its products, textiles, and electrical apparatus.

Conversion to wartime manufacturing for the majority of London firms meant employment expansion and the redirection of goods from civilian to military channels. A period of readjustment and a general weeding out of marginal workers who were either inefficient or unqualified occurred after V-J Day.

The slight labour surplus which existed from approximately the beginning of December until the middle of March has fallen off to become a constantly increasing labour shortage. As at July 25 there were 1,144 vacancies for men, with 803 job applicants. Skilled construction workers, skilled and semi-skilled metal workers and heavy labourers are almost non-obtainable. Meeting current labour requirements is especially difficult for textile factories, tanneries, meat packing plants, and other factories where working conditions are comparatively unpleasant and wages are low. Available applicants are, for the most part, over-age, physically incapable of heavy labour, or only partially employable. Transfer-in of workers from areas where a labour surplus exists would have the double advantage of solving London's problem and at the same time reducing unemployment in other cities, but the extreme housing shortage blocks any such action.

As at July 25, vacancies for female workers numbered 681 while applicants numbered 178. A stringent shortage prevails for qualified stenographers and typists, as the majority of applicants for this type of work are either in the 40 - 60 age group or lack the required training. The service worker category also suffers from a tight labour supply, although students working for the summer have relieved the situation to a degree. Lack of adequate housing bars employers from obtaining female help from other than local sources in this case also.

London is undergoing a housing boom despite the current lack of building materials and construction workers. Between January 1, 1946, and July 1, 1946, 560 building permits were issued as compared with 290 permits issued for the same period last year. Current needs, however, overrun available housing facilities. As industry continues to expand, the general housing shortage picture grows more complex.

KITCHENER - WATERLOO, ONTARIO

Manufacturing in Kitchener-Waterloo consists chiefly of rubber (on strike), which constituted approximately 34 per cent of total manufacturing in April 1946, foodstuffs, 13 per cent, textiles, (male division on strike) 16 per cent, furniture, 9 per cent, leather products, 6 per cent, iron and steel products, 9 per cent, and electrical apparatus industries, 5 per cent. All of these industries have a large backlog of consumer demand which grew with the diverting of many civilian goods to the armed forces during the war.

As at May 1, 1946, data were compiled from 172 firms whose working forces totalled 18,221, that is, 104 more than at April 1. Employment in these cities, based on the 172 firms covered, has increased by 11 per cent and payrolls by 10.4 per cent since May 1945.

The continued heavy demand for labour illustrates employers' desires to increase production and employment. As at July 25, there were 795 unfilled vacancies, compared to 262 applicants. It must be realized however, that employers are fully aware of the acute labour shortage. In view of this, they have a tendency not to list vacancies which they know cannot be filled at the present time. If labour were available, the opening up of new job opportunities for workers would result.

Demand for labour in the rubber industry prior to the strike was chiefly for skilled men in the diverse rubber trades. Since the time required to train a man for most rubber trades is six months or less, this shortage would not be prolonged if suitable labour were available. The rubber industry could provide an outlet for the large pool of unskilled workers prevalent in many districts. Tanneries require bean house, hide house, and tanyard workers. Furniture plants require skilled and semi-skilled wood-workers. Lack of female machine operators is holding up production in textile plants. Production in iron and steel plants is curtailed by lack of foundry labourers and moulders, machine and lathe hands, and punch press operators (male and female).

The presence of approximately 200 unplaced applicants as an average for many months is extremely low, approaching turnover level. The remaining applicants are either physically unfit or unsuitable.

The crux of the labour problem is the acute housing shortage. The importation of workers from outside areas is the solution of the labour problem, but any movement of labour, large-scale or otherwise, through clearance (the procedure by which an applicant is obtained from an outside area if no suitable applicant is available locally) is prevented by lack of living accommodation.

BRANTFORD, ONTARIO

Overall employment in Brantford has maintained a relatively stable level since the end of the war. The majority of the industrial plants reconverted to peacetime production with comparatively little difficulty. Post-war expansion has been greatest in the agricultural implement manufacturing industry, in which employment increased from 3,493 at September 1, 1945 to 4,797 at May 1, 1946. A high level of production is expected to be maintained in this industry, backed up by the accumulated consumer demand for agricultural implements, which has been built up during the war.

The shortage of skilled workers has been apparent since the end of the war. It has become more acute and has spread to the semi-skilled and unskilled labour fields during the past four months. As at July 25, 1946, there were 725 unfilled vacancies compared with 379 applicants. Most urgently required among the male workers are drill press operators, moulders, core makers, patternmakers, and labourers. There are a large number of applicants for light factory work, but the majority of these men are either over-age, only partially employable, or possess such poor employment records that employers will not accept them.

In view of the large number of unfilled vacancies in Brantford it must be concluded that if the required number of workers were available employment would rise. At the same time, there are a number of areas in Canada, most noticeably in the province of Quebec and in the Maritime provinces, where a heavy surplus of labour exists. Why then can these vacancies not be filled by job seekers from such cities as Three Rivers, Quebec, where unplaced moulders and coremakers number 18, and unplaced labourers total 987?

Evidently there are three main drawbacks to the mobility of labour: (1) The distances to be covered, (2) The natural tendency for persons to "stay put", and (3) The lack of accommodation in Brantford to house a labour influx. The first two obstacles hinge on the solution of the housing shortage problem. Current lack of building materials is the chief stumbling block to a "full speed ahead" construction program. In the face of this, however, Brantford is experiencing an unprecedented construction boom. The first six months of 1946 have seen 249 permits issued valued at \$872,909, an increase of \$634,139 over the total of \$238,765 for 113 permits in the first half of 1945.

PETERBOROUGH, ONTARIO

A well diversified and progressive manufacturing industry characterizes Peterborough. During the reconversion period no heavy lay-offs occurred simultaneously in any two plants and an unexpectedly high level of employment was maintained as a direct result of the fact that manufacturing was on such firm footing and of such varied types. In 1943 this city ranked tenth in gross value of manufactured goods among Canadian cities, and thirty-third in the 1941 census of populations.

The largest manufacturing industries in this area are the electrical, out-board marine engine, foodstuffs, watch and clock, and dairy machines industries. The largest employer of labour in this city, the electrical industry, increased employment from 1,700 in July 1939, to 4,100 in June 1946. Total employment in manufacturing increased from 8,582 (approximately peak war employment at October 1, 1944) to 8,957 at May 1, 1946. All the other industries mentioned have increased employment on a comparable basis, although the number of workers per company is much smaller than the number employed by the electrical industry.

A consistent and gradual increase in employment followed the initial impetus of the war. This employment trend emanates from the policy of most companies, which was to retain their skilled help during reconversion although work was slack, in order that a lack of skilled men would not hold up peace-time production. Coupled with industries' well defined production program is the freedom from labour unrest in this city's plants..

The number of male unfilled vacancies compared with unplaced applicants is not so favourable as indications would lead one to believe. As at July 25, there were 417 male applicants and 321 jobs. However, a breakdown of the applicants by skills shows that 62.3 per cent of the unplaced applicants are unskilled, while 51.8 per cent of the jobs available are for white collar, skilled and semi-skilled workers. Demand is heavier for farm hands, loggers, construction workers, skilled metalworkers, and miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers. A strong demand for unskilled workers exists despite the large number of unplaced applicants. Approximately 16 per cent of all male applicants are over 44 years of age. Female supply balances demand numerically but not occupationally. While demand is heavier for unskilled and service workers, the applicants are more numerous in the clerical and sales groups.

Material shortages have cut deeply into actual building activities and present an obstacle in keeping construction crews together between numerous lay-offs. Proposed construction activity is extensive. Many suitable applicants are available through clearance (the procedure of bringing in an applicant from another district when no suitable applicant is available locally), but the serious lack of living accommodation prevents the hiring of these men. The solution of the problem will come with the end of material shortages and an ample supply of skilled construction tradesmen.

SAULT STE MARIE, ONTARIO

Industry in Sault Ste Marie, centered in iron, steel, and iron mining is not well diversified. Iron mining is on the upswing, but the Algoma Steel Corporation is closed down by the major steel strike now in progress. Apart from these two industries, the only other large-scale employers of labour in this area are the pulp and paper, chromite mining and smelting, and transportation industries.

The discovery of an iron ore equal or superior to the iron ores formerly imported from Minnesota, at Steep Rock Lake (Michipicoten area), was the result of a long sought for primary industry in Canada. Employment in the iron mining industry (Steep Rock, Helen Mines and Josephine Acre), numbered about 150 men in 1939, (only Helen Mines), but jumped to approximately 800 men as at June 1, 1946, a 50 per cent expansion since June 1, 1943. Future plans for the Steep Rock Iron Mines include great expansion in employment. Production of iron ores will be trebled. Employment in transportation has risen with the opening up of the Michipicoten area.

The iron and steel industry employed about 2,400 men in July 1939, compared to 4,602 workers engaged as at June 1, 1946, prior to the strike in this industry which commenced on July 15. As yet there is no evidence to substantiate an increase in unemployment in this area once the strike is settled.

Employment in the chromite mining and smelting industry was well maintained during the war because of the heavy demand for the finished product, chromium, used in the manufacturing of naval guns, etc. A decline has been evident since V-J Day however, as employment figures for March, 1946 numbered 246, compared to the peak wartime employment of 389, in July 1943.

Pulp and paper manufacturing has sustained almost consistent employment since 1939. This industry could keep several thousand woodsmen busy in their yearly pulpwood operations, but the current lack of loggers will curtail production.

The rise in number of unplaced male applicants is unmistakably a repercussion of the steel strike. The jump from the July 11 total of 163 male applicants to 476 as at July 25 demonstrates the strike effects. Of the 476, 413 are claimants for unemployment insurance. Metalworkers, and workers in miscellaneous occupations related to the steel industry account for almost the entire unemployment increase. Aside from this, labour demand in Sault Ste Marie remains strong, calling for loggers, miners, and construction workers. As yet there is no reason to believe that the unemployed metalworkers and miscellaneous workers will not become employed again when the strike meets settlement. In the female labour field, there are only 12 vacancies for the 262 applicants, as at July 25. This surplus may be charged to the fact that heavy industry predominates in this city.

It is difficult to obtain men through clearance because loggers, miners, and construction workers, for whom demand is greatest, are also scarce in many other areas. While the lack of housing could not be labelled acute, the greatly increased number of gainfully occupied in this city, coupled with the badly needed influx of construction workers, miners, and loggers will definitely tax the housing facilities of this area to the limit. The inflow of many men from outside points in search of work in Sault Ste Marie aggravates the housing situation.

FORT WILLIAM - PORT ARTHUR, ONTARIO

Extensive seasonal expansion in employment commenced in Fort William and Port Arthur at the beginning of May and has continued in a moderate upward trend. The employment gain at May 1, compared to April 1, amounted to 8.9 per cent. It occurred chiefly in transportation, but manufacturing and construction were also more active. Weekly salaries and wages showed an increase of 8.2 per cent during the same period.

Industry in this city is centred chiefly in transportation, iron and steel, pulp and paper, logging, and mining. The heavy unemployment after V-J Day is the aftermath of large lay-offs in the shipbuilding and aircraft industries. However, the expansion in the pulp and paper, logging, mining, and construction industries is offsetting this serious reduction in employment.

Established pulp and paper mills in this area employ about 1,500 men in mill operations. New paper mills are being constructed at Marathon and Terrace, creating a large demand for carpenters and labourers, and skilled pulp and paper mill-hands. One company is going to install a new wood grinding machine, one of the most modern of its type in the world. A financial statement reveals that profits in this industry were higher in 1945 than in 1944.

The logging industry has a constantly increasing demand for woodsmen with few applicants available. As at July 25, 3,733 loggers were required in this area, with only 39 applicants registered for employment; the majority of operators are pessimistic about obtaining sufficient labour. However, some of the companies have acquired a considerable backlog of material which will help to alleviate any possible shortage of pulpwood caused by the labour shortage.

As at July 25, 131 hard rock miners were urgently required for district gold mines production has been curtailed in all producing mines because of the shortage of labour.

The 32.4 per cent reduction in employment since May 1945 occurred principally in the secondary iron and steel industry (mostly shipbuilding and shell manufacturing), and in the other large employer of war workers, the aircraft industry. Another slump in employment in the secondary iron and steel industry has occurred recently because of the present strike in the steel industry. As at July 25, combined male unplaced applicants in the two cities were 1,466 and vacancies 5,327. Not taking into account the demand for 3,733 loggers, there are still 1,594 jobs available (mostly for construction workers, miners, and unskilled workers). While there are 558 unskilled workers idle, current demand calls for 1,053 men. Evidently these men are physically unfit or unwilling to accept work. Only 93 of them are over 60 years of age, and the majority are registered as light factory labourers for whom there is no demand. An increasing number of former war workers are returning to their pre-war occupations, or are accepting work in the labour field.

It is unlikely that enough homes will be completed this year to provide any significant relief to the housing problem. Of the 160 homes under construction in Fort William, only 50 are completed. Many houses in Port Arthur would be completed if it were not for the shortage of electrical wiring and fixtures. Skilled construction workers have been laid off because of material shortages, particularly cement. Lack of accommodation is the chief drawback to filling the orders for gold miners in the district. The increased turnover in out of town pulp and paper mills is traceable to the inadequate living accommodation provided.

DRUMMONDVILLE, QUEBEC

One industry, the textile industry, dominates the scene in Drummondville, a town of 10,555 people at the 1941 census. The companies are endeavouring to work three shifts in order to fill orders stemming from the accumulated demand for all types of textile products. They are faced with a situation in which labour is not available. Lack of operators has forced some looms to remain inactive.

This reported labour shortage seems incongruous when one notices that unplaced applicants registered as at July 18 number 627, and unfilled vacancies only 520. An analysis of the figures, however, reveals that it is among women that the number of applicants greatly exceed the reported job openings, whereas vacancies for men are one and a half times the number of applicants. There has been a policy of replacing married women by young men in the manufacturing plants. Employers prefer men to women for the night shifts.

The concentration of orders for men lies in the light factory labour category, but filling the orders has been very difficult since most of the applicants possess medical certificates forbidding night work. Available workers find the wages too low, the hours too long, or night work unpleasant. In the line of improving the situation several textile companies granted general wage increases at the end of May and are directing some effort to making working conditions more attractive.

The local employment office feels that it would be possible to fill all the needs of the companies if labour could be obtained from outside points.

Lack of housing, however, prevents the placing of clearance orders to bring labour into Drummondville. In an effort to meet this problem representatives of the municipalities of greater Drummondville held a conference in June. A project to build a hostel which would accommodate three hundred to four hundred young men was under discussion. By July, town authorities decided that a measure should be drawn up to provide housing loans for the construction of some 200 houses. This ruling will be voted on in the first part of August.

Activity in the construction industry has kept up as good a pace as the limits of available material and labour will allow. At present one hundred houses are under construction by one company to be ready for occupancy around the end of August. The supply of labour almost balances demand in Drummondville in the building trades, but a general inability to meet the hiring specifications of employers seems to persist among those who are unemployed. In view of this, it is doubtful that the plans for accelerating the building program to alleviate the housing shortage will meet with success.

The re-establishment of veterans in the area makes the problem more complex. Inadequate housing accommodation has meant that many ex-servicemen are forced to live in boarding houses, leaving their families outside the city. An estimate has been made that about forty houses would be necessary to surmount the obstacle of housing needs for veterans and their families.

YELLOWKNIFE, N.W.T.

Yellowknife is the largest settlement in the Mackenzie District. It became a boom-town in 1935-36, following the rich gold strikes in the area. In 1939, the Yellowknife Administration District was created and the first Municipal government of Mackenzie District was established in the following year. The Yellowknife Mining District covers an immense area, and many localities as yet have received only casual examination.

The population of Yellowknife was over 1,000 in 1939 and by 1945 increased to about 3,000 in the town and surrounding prospecting areas. By 1945 the town-site had completely outgrown its location and a new site was surveyed. This growth took place in the face of the retarding influence the war had on the gold mining industry. All indications point to a continued growth in the light of the large expansion in gold mining and development now getting underway.

In 1941-42 there were six gold mines producing in the area, employing many men, but a shortage of labour gradually forced them to suspend operations temporarily. Although mineral production declined in 1944, new developments during that year foreshadow increased activity in the future. By September 1944, approximately 100 mining companies and syndicates either owned mining claims in the district or had an interest in their development. The development of water power at Prosperous Lake to provide hydro-electric energy for mines in the region brought about reduced operating costs, and should be an incentive to further exploration and development.

As at July 25, there was a demand for 120 men and only 33 applicants. Male demand at this time was chiefly for the following: miners, (skilled and unskilled), heavy labourers (other heavy, and light factory), construction workers (skilled and unskilled), serviceworkers, and metalworkers, and miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers. Demand for female workers was much lighter with only 14 vacancies, compared to 6 applicants. Female demand was for 1 clerical worker, 12 service workers, and 1 classed as miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled worker.

At present, hotel and housing accommodation is very limited, and food supplies are scarce. Construction activity is very slack because the supply of materials is inadequate. There is no indication of the number of people who would come to this area if there were any hope of their securing accommodation. Lack of materials is not only holding up construction but is also blocking the establishment of new businesses. Construction planned by mining companies is being retarded.

Lack of supplies is just as severe a handicap to progress as the current labour shortage in Yellowknife. All supplies are brought in by air or water in the summer, and by tractor train in the winter, so that it is doubtful if any rapid expansion can take place until a more adequate, cheaper, and year round means of transportation is provided. At the present time a 200 mile highway is being built from northern Alberta to Yellowknife. Its completion should greatly alleviate the chronic transportation problems of the past, and aid in the opening up of this region.

Gold mining dwindled to a large degree during the war, but even if only the mines operating in 1941-42 were to return to normal operations, a large number of men would be employed. In view of the amount of exploration and development in progress many more men will be in demand in the future. The problem for expansion hinges on the supply question at the present time.

LONDON, ONT.

KITCHENER - WATERLOO, ONT.

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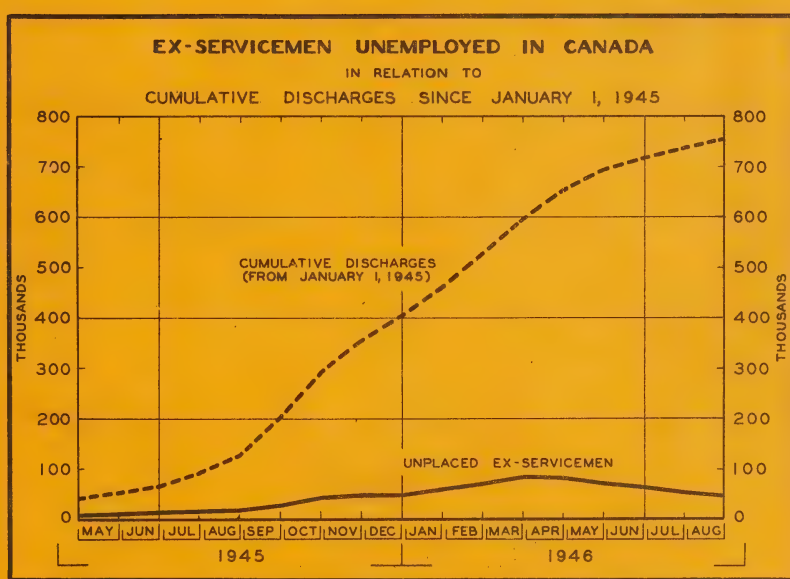
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CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

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Unplaced Applicants in Canada, registered at National Employment Service Offices, totalled 144,000 at September 5, 1946. A decline of 16,000 took place in July, and August saw another drop of 16,000. The decrease in the last week of August was only 3,000. The rate of decline slowed almost to a standstill in the first week of September, with a reduction of only some 200 workers. Critical material bottlenecks are cutting deeply into production, as major strikes continue in key industries across the Dominion, curbing employment expansion in these and a wide range of associated industries.

Unfilled Vacancies in Canada amounted to 123,000 at September 5, 1946. A drop of 14,000 took place in July, as compared with a rise of 11,000 during August. Unstable labour relations and critical material shortages combined are reflected in the reluctance of employers across the country to report job openings. Strikers seeking temporary employment have filled a large number of vacancies in the agricultural industry as harvest nears.

Unplaced Ex-servicemen in Canada numbered 48,000 at August 31, 1946, as compared with 55,000 at the end of the previous month. Jobless ex-servicemen who have been out of work 15 days or more totalled 33,000 at the end of August, compared to 38,000 at July 31. Those unplaced 15 days or more then, constituted 68 per cent of all unplaced veterans, as compared with 69 per cent at the end of July. At August 31, jobless ex-servicemen constituted 34 per cent of the total unemployed, compared to 33 per cent at the end of the previous month.

Discharges of Service Personnel during August of this year numbered about 18,000 according to latest information, a drop of about 2,000 from the total number discharged in July. Since V-J day then, the number released from the armed forces has hit the 660,000 mark. Forecasts for September and October are 16,000 and 6,000 discharges respectively.

A Classification of Canadian Labour Market Areas illustrates that the employment situation was Acute, corresponding to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties" in two areas, and Serious, tallying with employment conditions in 1939, in four other areas. The labour market situation in Oshawa changed from Moderate, corresponding with conditions in 1941, to Serious, during August. The relative employment status of Collingwood changed from Serious to Moderate in the same period. No change in status has taken place since June 27, in the two areas classified in the Acute unemployment category, New Glasgow-Pictou and Valleyfield.

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PART I

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Section I:—DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

The Strike Situation

Although strikes in Canada in 1946 are establishing a new record in numerical extent and duration, they have not yet resulted in as proportionately a great loss of total working time as in 1919. In the year 1919, 3,400,000 man-working days were lost through strikes. An equivalent loss in 1946, allowing for the natural growth of the labour force, would amount to about 5,000,000 man-days. To the end of August in 1946, approximately 3,412,000 man-days had been lost.

The growth of industrial unrest during and following World War II appears to follow the same curve as for World War I. In both cases, few man-days were lost through strikes in the early years of the war. Then came an increase, and moderate mid-war peaks were reached in 1917 and in 1943. Losses decreased in the latter part of each war. Then, in the first year of peace, came an outburst of big, long strikes, producing in each case a loss of man-days quite beyond comparison with the losses of other years.

The years 1920 to 1925, while not comparable to 1919, were years of considerable industrial unrest. Is anyone prepared to bet that the years 1947 to 1952 will not be similar?

Why the present peak—Why should there be so many strikes in 1946? The explanation must lie in the difficulties of adjustment from war to peace, and the following points seem relevant;

(1) Employment at present is high, due to the post-war scarcity of goods and the increased quantity of money. When labour is in demand, labour has an opportunity to bargain for better terms.

(2) Labour's present prosperity is, however, precarious, being threatened by the alternative menaces of a rising cost of living, or of collapse of the present boom with resulting unemployment. Either menace puts pressure upon labour to improve its position without delay.

(3) Grievances accumulated under war conditions, which labour felt it inexpedient and unpatriotic to press at the time. The restraints of war-time are now removed.

(4) The emotions aroused by war do not cool overnight. Until with the passage of time they do cool, they must find other outlets.

These points are suggested in explanation of the timing of the strikes, and imply nothing regarding the issues at stake.

Increase in strikes since V-J day—For a year before V-J Day, loss of man-days due to strikes was relatively low, averaging about 16,000 man-days per month. For the last four months of 1945, the figure was much higher, reaching 422,673 man-days in November. This peak was due chiefly to the prolonged strike in motor vehicle plants at Windsor, Ont., which lasted from September 12 to December 29, and which was settled by the "Rand" formula.

During the winter there was a decided lull, the most important strike being one of 900 electrical workers in Brockville and Montreal.

In May, a wave of strikes began, which involved a wide range of vital industries, and large groups of workers. Many of these strikes have been prolonged and bitterly fought. The loss of man-days during June, July and August has averaged over 900,000 per month.

Two important strikes began in May and were settled in June. The first was the strike of loggers and sawmill workers in British Columbia. Involving 35,000 workers, this was much the largest of all strikes to the present. The second was the strike of seamen on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River for an eight-hour day, which ended after the government had assumed control pending a final settlement.

Nearly all the other important strikes which began in May and the following months were still unsettled at September 7. Strikes beginning in May included those among brass factory workers at New Toronto, Ontario, and compositors and pressmen employed by newspapers in Vancouver, Edmonton, Hamilton and Ottawa: printers in Winnipeg had been on strike since November 9, 1945.

In June, textile workers went on strike at Montreal and Valleyfield; this strike ended on September 7. Other major strikes beginning in June included workers in motor vehicles, chemicals, and steel products, at Windsor and Chatham, and rubber workers throughout Ontario. The rubber strike compares, in number of workers involved and man-days lost, with the motor vehicles strike of last autumn, and with the later steel strike; each of these has involved about 10,000 workers.

In July, strikes began among metal miners in British Columbia, electrical apparatus workers in Hamilton and Toronto, and chemical workers in Amherstburg, Ontario. The strategic strike in basic steel commenced on July 14. In August secondary steel plants in Hamilton and Lachine were closed by strikes.

Mention has been made only of those strikes which have been unusually important because of their length, the number of workers involved, or the strategic position of the industry in the whole economy.

Effects of strikes—The right to strike is still labour's chief bargaining weapon, and it has been abolished, in recent generations, only in countries governed by dictators. Nevertheless, labour itself readily admits that the strike in itself is an evil. It is easy to see the evil consequences of strikes so large and prolonged as those now in progress in Canada.

The basic steel strike has already crippled numerous industries by depriving them, at a critical time, of one of their principal materials. Construction is held up, and the housing shortage is intensified. The shipbuilding industry has lost important foreign orders. The manufacture of automobiles, agricultural implements, and railway rolling stock has been delayed, and for all of these there is a pressing demand.

Strikes in the chemical industry hamper the glass industry, the pulp and paper industry and base metal mines using the flotation process. Soda ash is essential to the mining and refining of uranium, to petroleum refining, and to soap manufacture. Calcium chloride is used for top surfacing of highways. Chlorine is required for urban water supplies.

If the strike among Great Lakes seamen had been prolonged, the lack of transport for Canada's wheat crop would have been disastrous.

Delay in production means the prolongation of scarcity, and this, aside from the immediate evil of scarcity itself, means increased pressure toward inflation.

Finally, when strikes are prolonged, feelings grow increasingly bitter, outbreaks of violence occur, and a legacy of ill-will is left after the strike is ended.

The great evil is not so much that strikes should occur as that they should be so unusually prolonged.

Issues in strikes--The strike is labour's final resort in attaining objects highly important to itself. The issues at stake in the recent strikes have been in nearly all cases those already familiar from previous experience--especially union security, higher wages, and shorter hours.

The union shop was the principal issue in the automobile strike in Windsor in the fall of 1945, and also in the Hamilton division of the basic steel strike. The Rand award in the automobile strike, issued on January 29, devised a new form of union security. The union shop was denied, but union dues were to be paid by all employees. Security was also given the employer by the provision of penalties for "wildcat" strikes and strikes called without a secret ballot.

The eight-hour day was the chief object of the strike of Great Lakes seamen which ended in June.

Several strikes have been called primarily in sympathy with other strikes. Such were the strike in automobile parts plants in Windsor in November, 1945, that among printers in Vancouver, Edmonton, Hamilton and Ottawa, and that in secondary steel plants in Hamilton.

A strike among coal miners in Alberta and British Columbia, which caused great loss of man-days in September and October 1945, was directed against meat rationing.

Wages, however, have been the principal issue in the majority of strikes. A statement on wage policy was issued by the Canadian Congress of Labour on February 14, which set forth as objectives of union activity the following:

- (1) A general increase in wages.
- (2) The forty-hour week, without reduction in "take-home" pay.
- (3) The increase in production of consumer goods, to prevent increases in prices.
- (4) The maintenance of price-control and subsidy of agricultural products and necessities, in the belief that no general increases in prices are necessary to meet increased wage-rates.

The question of wage increases was extensively discussed in the evidence presented by Mr. Pat Conroy to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Industrial Relations, which met in July and August. Two of the chief points put forward were the following:

- (1) Because of modification of price-control, the cost of living has in fact risen appreciably in recent months, so that an equivalent increase in wage-rates is called for.
- (2) Even without any increase in prices, increased wages could be paid by many industries, for several reasons:
 - (a) increased wages would result in some increase in the productivity of labour;
 - (b) profits are now unusually high in most industries;
 - (c) tax-reductions, such as the reduction of the excess profits tax, will only increase profits further unless there is a simultaneous increase in wage-rates.

In opposition to these and other arguments, the chief point advanced has been that increases in wages, if pushed beyond a certain point, must lead to price increases, which might then initiate an inflationary spiral. The figure of 10 cents per hour was suggested by Mr. Donald Gordon as the approximate level beyond which wage increases in most industries could not go without danger of inflation.

Regional differentials in wage-rates were also among the principal objects of complaints by C.C.L. representatives before the Industrial Relations Committee. The steel industry was of course the case chiefly under discussion.

Industrial Relations Committee—The House of Commons Committee on Industrial Relations on July 16 was directed and authorized to conduct a close investigation of current industrial unrest across Canada. The Committee tabled a seven clause report on August 17, after a four weeks inquiry which involved 48 sittings. Union, management and responsible government officials testified before the committee of Parliament.

The committee was not directly charged to settle the steel strike. They endeavoured to find a basis on which machinery could be set up to cope with current labour unrest, of which the basic steel strike is the most critical phase.

From the beginning the committee faced a complex situation, the background of which was pervaded by a dangerous psychology. The Canadian economy had even at that time sustained a severe loss, which threatened to delay reconversion progress, and cause a nation-wide industrial slow-down. The strike in the three basic steel plants, the Steel Company of Canada Ltd., Algoma Steel Corporation Ltd., and Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation Ltd., had repercussions throughout the entire economy. In addition, a wage decision in steel might be taken as a nation-wide pattern. The situation defied settlement by a common formula. The following general recommendations were submitted after an intensive probe into Canada's troubled industrial relations.

Recommendations:

1. (a) That the proposed dominion-provincial labour conference be called at the earliest possible moment to draft a labour code within the limits of the Canadian constitution and with a view to establishing machinery for the prevention of dislocations in industry.
- (b) That in the interval much closer contact be established between the Wartime Prices and Trade Board and the Regional and National War Labour Board.
- (c) That matters coming before the Regional and National War Labour Boards be handled expeditiously.
2. Price control is only possible with a reasonable measure of wage control.
3. A measure of union security should follow certification.
4. Law being the basis of our society the committee condemns:
 - (a) The policy adopted by some unions and some employers of disregarding the legal machinery provided for adjusting wages and settling disputes.
 - (b) The breaches of the law of Canada by the use of physical force or otherwise, either by employer or union.
5. That the law of picketing be studied with a view to its modernization and clarification and for the purpose of making it more effective for the protection of the rights of all elements in the community.
6. That the Minister of Labour may, at the request of either party to an industrial dispute and if he deems fit, either before or after a strike is in progress, direct that a strike vote be taken under government supervision to determine the wishes of the men affected as to whether a strike will take place or otherwise.
7. That the controllers appointed by order in council P.C. 2901 be instructed to implement the terms of such orders with such modification as the government may determine.

The motion for concurrence of the report was passed on August 22, by a vote of 129-28. Greatest controversy centres around Clause #6.

The Withdrawal of Students from the Labour Market

Every year the months of September and October see thousands of students flocking back to school. Many of these young people will be leaving jobs which they held during the summer months. The start of a new school year, therefore, will have a very definite effect on the labour market. What will be the nature and extent of this shift in status during 1946?

At June 1, 8.1 per cent of all students were veterans--In February, 1946, there were about 638,000 students in Canada 14 years of age and over. Of these, 59,000, or 9.2 per cent, were ex-servicemen. By June 1, there had been a drop of 59,000 in the volume of those attending schools as most university students had by that time finished their year's work. It should not be forgotten, however, that many were remaining in various courses during the summer months and that others were starting courses for the first time. At June 1, therefore, there were about 579,000 persons, 14 years of age and over, who were still attending school. Of these 47,000, or 8.1 per cent, were ex-servicemen. The fact that the proportion of ex-servicemen dropped is due to their being for the most part in the more advanced educational institutions whose school year ended before June 1.

Students now comprise 16 per cent of non-working population--Before the war, about 15 per cent of the non-working population, 14 years of age and over, were students. During the war, this proportion dropped to almost 10 per cent as the armed forces and war industry absorbed many young people who otherwise would have been at school. Since the latter half of 1945, however, the portion of students in the non-working population has risen to almost 16 per cent. The year 1947 should see an even greater rise in the percentage of students.

Normally, 15-20 per cent of all students seek summer jobs--Normally, about 15 to 20 per cent of all students over 14 years of age become job seekers during the summer months. Obviously, most of these are men. It should be noted that economic conditions will tend to influence to some extent this proportion; when times are bad, fewer students will seek summer work although there will be a tendency to leave school at an earlier age. This summer, job conditions were relatively good; there was an abnormal proportion of male students; amongst veterans, age and responsibilities would incline them to seek work for the summer months despite rehabilitation educational benefits. In addition, during the current summer there have been many veterans discharged who have taken jobs only until the school term opens in September and October.

About 130,000 students took temporary jobs this summer--During May and June of 1946, therefore, there should have been a much greater influx of students into the labour market than heretofore. It is extremely difficult to estimate the volume of this "summer job" movement. If, however, 15 to 20 per cent of all students over 14 years of age "normally" seek summer jobs, an estimate of about 25 per cent for the current period seems plausible in the light of the above factors; this would mean that about 130,000 would-be workers entered the labour force early this summer. The fact that unemployment continued to decline despite this influx indicates the absorptive capacity of the labour market.

Job withdrawal even greater this Fall--Throughout September and October, these 130,000 workers will be returning to school. In addition, there will be many ex-servicemen leaving jobs to start school for the first time since demobilization. Although this will be counterbalanced to some extent by the appearance of some veterans in the labour market as their courses finish, it will still be a significant factor. Before discharge, about 14 per cent of all servicemen indicated that they were going to take further training when demobilized. Events, however, proved this to be a greatly exaggerated figure as only about 5 per cent did take vocational training or return to university.

Thus extensive unemployment unlikely till Winter, at least--Since May 1, about 100,000 servicemen have been discharged. If 5 to 10 per cent entered schools in the Fall, this would involve 5,000 to 10,000 persons, most of whom undoubtedly were in the labour market during the summer. Against this, has to be balanced the number who will be finishing vocational courses this Fall which is likely of the same magnitude. All in all, therefore, a net withdrawal from the labour force about 100,000 to 150,000 will probably occur during this September and October. This development, paralleled by the continued seasonal expansion in employment until October and November, will likely preclude any large-scale volume of unemployment until the winter months, at least.

The Threat of Inflation

In recent months, there has been much loose talk about "inflation" and what it would mean to the Canadian economy. It is useless, however, to talk about the consequences of a general price rise without knowing something about the nature of the rise. To this end, price movements must be classified on one of several bases.

Four types of inflation--A most meaningful classification is that of grouping changes in individual prices according to their specific causes and effects. On this basis, it is possible to distinguish four types of inflation: sporadic, monetary, speculative, and astronomical¹. Sporadic inflation, characterized by intermittent rises in individual prices due to abnormal shortages of specific goods, is obviously a feature of the current Canadian economy, and will likely continue to be significant for another six months to one year. It is just as obvious that we are in no danger of an astronomical inflation of the fourth type which culminates in a flight of capital, currency depreciation, and public bankruptcy. Such an inflation is at present occurring in Greece, Yugoslavia, and China.

Monetary inflation in Canada might become speculative--There is a very real danger, however, of a monetary inflation developing into an inflation of the speculative type in Canada. A monetary inflation consists of a general rise in prices arising out of an increased supply of money which is not offset by an equivalent rise in the flow of goods and services or in the demand for cash balances. At the moment, we have inherited, as an heritage of the high level of economic activity which occurred during the war, a much larger supply of circulating money than we had in 1939. At the same time, economic

¹See: Postwar Economic Studies, No. 4, May 1946, "Prices, Wages and Employment", Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington,

activity now is not so great as it was during the latter war period. If there is a relatively greater increase in prices than in the supply of money, then speculative inflation is present. This latter type of boom is "viciously self-inflammatory" because demand is stimulated as people begin to pay higher prices merely because they think they can sell at an even higher price before the boom is over. This, therefore, becomes a "boom-bust" situation.

Production and income basic factors—As mentioned above, the extent to which the Canadian economy moves into an inflation of the monetary and perhaps speculative type depends in part upon the volume of goods and services that are produced; also significant, of course, is the flow of current savings and dissavings, the level of investment, and, for Canada, the movement of prices in the United States. Turning to the volume of production, it is apparent that it is only significant, insofar as price changes are concerned, when compared to the amount of money that is available to be spent on the goods produced. It must be remembered that if a man is producing goods, he is also receiving an income which will be spent in a large part on those and other goods. Price movements, therefore, are most directly affected only when there are relative changes in the volume of goods produced for sale and the amount of money that is available to be spent on these goods.

Marked change in production-income ratio in Canada—In Canada, during the past few months, there have been marked changes in this relationship. Since the end of the war, particularly, production has dropped sharply while the general level of employment now is about the same as it was at May 1, 1945. Although this is true on an overall basis, it is also very relevant to the manufacturing component of the economy. As this is one of the most basic sectors of the economy and since data are most readily available for it, the following analysis will be confined to manufacturing industries alone.

Per capita production drops, earnings stay high—Since the end of the war, employment in manufacturing industries has dropped substantially. A much greater decline, however, has occurred in the physical volume of manufacturing production due to the difficulties of reconversion and to the widespread effects of strikes in strategic industries. The result is apparent in Table I below. Per capita production has dropped off sharply since the war's end and now is near the level of 1939. Per capita earnings, on the other hand, are still very high.

Table I—Production, Employment, and Earnings in Manufacturing

(Source of original data: Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

	Production	Employment	Per Capita Production	Weekly Per Capita Earnings
1939.....	100	100	100	100
1940.....	124	117	106	108
1941.....	166	150	111	117
1942.....	231	184	126	130
1943.....	279	201	139	143
1944.....	277	200	139	148
1945.....	236	181	130	148
1946 (estimated).....	178	160	111	146

It should be noted that the above figures on production can only be taken as general indications of trends since 1939. This is true because the type of product manufactured during the war differed so greatly from that turned out in peace-time. The figures for 1946 have been estimated on the basis of those for the first seven months of the year.

Some drop in post-war production inevitable—Part of the drop in per capita production was inevitable. During the war, there was a full utilization of the capacity of both labour and equipment and many economies necessarily resulted. At the same time, production was greatly standardized as huge contracts were let for single articles. The civilian market demands a much more diversified output, of clothes for instance. Finally, a much greater proportion of the "war" industries utilized mass production methods and were more heavily mechanized than in the case of civilian industry as a whole. Despite these factors, however, the estimated decline of 28 points in the index of per capita production between 1944 and 1946 strongly suggests that the currently employed portion of the Canadian labour force is anything but productive at the very time when the demand for goods is at a record level.

Inclination to spend income is great—What has happened to the manufacturing workers income in the same period? At the present time, weekly per capita earnings in manufacturing industries are about 46 per cent above the level of 1939, and only one per cent below the level of 1944. At the same time, since 1939, the income of the unemployed worker has been protected by an extensive unemployment insurance program, the rehabilitation program has given the demobilized serviceman a great deal of purchasing power, the family allowance scheme has raised the earnings of those in the low income groups, and the Victory Loans of the war period have provided many with a substantial reserve of potential buying power. Finally, the inclination to buy is at present strong. Many ex-servicemen desire to set up new homes and many civilians are eager to satisfy demands that have been postponed for some time.

Thus a strong inflationary pressure exists—Currently, therefore, there is a serious imbalance between productive power and purchasing power and the consequent upward pressure on prices is very great. Thus, the threat of a monetary inflation which might develop into a speculative buying spree with the inevitable sharp recession is very real.

But, trend of U.S. prices most critical—Probably one of the most critical factors in the whole situation for Canada, however, will be the trend of prices in the United States. If an extensive and prolonged price rise occurs south of the border, it will be most difficult for this country to insulate its economy so that similar rises could not occur. Already some steps to this end have been taken (i.e., parity of the Canadian and American dollar, subsidies, export quotas, etc.), and likely the only additional step that could be made would be the extension of the subsidy program. A speculative inflation in the United States, therefore, would do much to induce a similar condition in this country. At present, a monetary inflation has probably developed in the American economy to a greater extent than in Canada.

Section 2:-- LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

Industrial Employment

Employment at July 1 up 50 per cent from 1939 level--Industrial employment in Canada continued to increase despite the ever-widening effects of major strikes in the country. At July 1, 1946, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported a total of 1,848,500 employees in firms for the most part having individual working forces of 15 or more workers. This increase of about two per cent in recorded employment was slightly more than the average seasonal variation that occurred at that time during the years 1929 to 1937. The index, based on the average level of 1926 as 100, rose from 168.6 to 172.1. This indicates a level of employment that is approximately 50 per cent above that of 1939.

Sharp rise in manufacturing employment in June--Recovering from the effects of the strike in the lumber industry of British Columbia, employment in manufacturing industries surged upward during June; an increase of 1.3 per cent was recorded, considerably greater than the average seasonal expansion of pre-war years. As a matter of fact, employment in the durable goods sector of manufacturing rose by 2.6 per cent largely as a result of the return to work of the lumber workers on the west coast. The sharp upward movement in manufacturing employment indicated that as of the beginning of July the effective ramifications of other strikes had not been very great.

Employment upswing greatest in non-manufacturing industries--The greatest increases in employment occurred amongst the non-manufacturing industries, construction, services, and communication. In the construction industry, a seasonal expansion in employment of about 8 per cent occurred; this was much less than the average pre-war seasonal rise and illustrates to some extent the restriction of activity due to material shortages. It should not be forgotten, however, that the current level of activity in the construction industry is quite high and therefore a "normal" seasonal expansion should not be expected to occur.

Service industry employment nears peak--A similar deviation from the pre-war seasonal pattern has undoubtedly occurred among the service industries in which an increase of about 4 per cent in recorded employment occurred during June. Although this increase was less than the pre-war seasonal movement, the number currently employed in the service industries is near an all-time high. This record level of employment has been induced by the post-war expansion of

the Canadian tourist trade as thousands of Americans flocked into the country on their holidays and by the greater availability of labour since the end of the war and the lifting of labour controls.

Employment gains in communications due to deferred construction and maintenance work—A considerably greater than seasonal expansion occurred in communications; employment at July 1 was 3.6 per cent above that of a month ago. This gain has been occasioned by a backlog of construction and maintenance work which has been delayed by war conditions. A construction program of almost \$60,000,000 has been planned by two of the largest firms during 1946 and 1947.

Employment peak largely due to seasonal expansion in non-manufacturing—The fact that the current high level of employment is largely due to great seasonal activity among non-manufacturing industries is anything but a basis for complacency on the part of those interested in a high and stable level of employment. As the increase in activity in the manufacturing segment of the economy has been below the average pre-war seasonal level since the beginning of this year, it would be well to search out the trends of the component industries. Classifying the manufacturing industries on the basis of the purposes for which their individual products are utilized, a functional analysis is to some extent possible.

From January 1, 1946, to July 1, as shown in Table I at end of section, reported employment in all manufacturing industries rose 3.8 per cent, while the average pre-war seasonal movement in the same period was a gain of 9.3 per cent. Amongst the component industries, the greatest employment expansion of 11.3 per cent occurred in those producing consumer durable finished goods. This was to be expected, of course, in view of the heavy backlog of demand for household furnishings and for automobiles. As a matter of fact, the expansion since the first of the year would have been even greater had there not been shortages of steel, of metal parts, of mirrors, and of coverings.

Critical material shortages hit automotive industry—With respect to these shortages, one automobile executive stated:

"We have made an appraisal of the likely volume of business, both domestic and export, in the automobile business, and also a proportion of that business which is likely to be our share. We think we have been conservative in our appraisal. We have set our production schedule in terms of this, but we have to revise it constantly. We have not abandoned it, we have revised it. We have not obtained our goal, but we do not give up easily. The difficulties we have, and are encountering have surpassed any experienced in war production. Production is in a dreadful mess. This is partly brought about by stoppage of steel and the uneven flow of certain types of materials."

In recent months, however, there has been a decided change in the outlook of manufacturers in this group. This is particularly true amongst automobile executives, another of whom states:

"Our ratio of production has been cut from 35 to 22. We were scheduled to produce 90,000 units for 1946. This has been successively cut to 75,000, to 60,000 to 50,000—units—what it will be we do not know. People are getting very cautious. The cost of living is going up fast."

Employment in those industries producing consumer non-durable finished goods has risen 3.7 per cent since the first of the year, slightly less than the expansion in manufacturing as a whole. The only significant employment gain amongst firms in this group is that occurring in those producing clothing. In the food industry, employment moved upward seasonally with no substantial cyclical advancement in spite of the current huge demand for foodstuffs. The limiting factor here has been the supply of raw materials for processing. Sir John Boyd Orr, director general of F.A.O., states the problem thus:

"The need for cereals for direct human consumption will lead to diversion of feeding stuffs for animals to direct consumption for over several years. There will, therefore, be a delay in building up farm animal stocks, which will inevitably lead to a shortage of animal products in 1948 and 1949. What we are dealing with is not a 90-day crisis but a three or four year's shortage."

This is remarkably true of the situation in Canada. However, even though the food shortage persists for three or four years it is unlikely that Canadian exporters will retain their present favoured position throughout this period,

Marked expansion in pulp and paper industries—In those industries ancillary to consumer non-durables, an expansion in employment of 3.8 per cent has occurred since January 1. Most of this expansion has been concentrated in the pulp and paper industry with Canadian newsprint production reaching a new high of approximately 360,000 tons or 96.3 per cent of capacity. Production for the first five months of 1946 was up 31 per cent from 1945 and 49 per cent from pre-war levels. It is anticipated that the industry will continue to work at 97 per cent of capacity for the remaining months of 1946 and with every possibility of an improved cutting season next winter, employment in 1947 should continue to expand moderately. A number of new mills will also be coming into operation in 1947. Since most Canadian newsprint is exported to the United States, the expansion in the pulp and paper industry does not eventuate in an expansion of the Canadian printing and publishing industry. Amongst the industries primary to clothing and miscellaneous finished textiles, a slight decline took place in the first seven months of 1946. Very little expansion occurred in industries primary to food and in those producing containers.

Little expansion in durable producer goods industries—The producer goods industries showed an increase in employment of only 1.5 per cent during the first part of 1946. It is these industries producing durable producer goods which are subject to the largest cyclical fluctuations in demand and henceforth in activity. They are, therefore, strategic industries and often telegraph recessions and revivals. Thus, the fact that there has been little expansion in the activity of these industries since the beginning of the year suggests that the current prosperity might not be on too firm a basis.

Employment in three of the 11 industries turning out producer goods declined during the period under review. Expansion in three others was very slight. The remaining five (integrated steel, agricultural producers goods, non-ferrous metal, sawmills, and aircraft) witnessed substantial employment gains. Employment in integrated steel expanded greatly during the war and only moderate declines occurred in the latter part of 1945; once the effects of the steel strike are overcome, employment will likely continue to expand. The

agricultural producers' goods industry expanded greatly during the war and this trend has continued since the cessation of hostilities. Employment in firms producing non-ferrous metal goods expanded greatly during the war, but the immediate post-war period saw heavy declines. A recovery now seems apparent. In sawmills, employment expanded moderately during the war and this trend has now been succeeded by an even faster rate of increase. Aircraft employment, of course, expanded phenomenally during the war and then dropped sharply in the latter part of 1945. The year 1946 has seen a slight recovery.

Unemployment

Again during August the number of jobless workers registered with National Employment Service dropped. The ever-widening effects of current labour unrest, however, have made the decline much less than might have been seasonally expected.

Unplaced applicants down 15,000 in August—At August 29, there were 145,000 unplaced applicants compared with 160,000 at August 1. A drop of 15,000 occurred in August, of 17,000 in July, and of 33,000 in June. The volume of jobless workers, which began to decline last April, now has reached a level equivalent to that in October, 1945.

For the most part the entry of students into the labour market has terminated and the demobilization of servicemen is fast nearing completion. In view of this and of the continued seasonal expansion of jobs, the slowing rate of unemployment decline is markedly illustrative of the crippling effects of current strikes.

Employment rise focused on males—The drop in unplaced applicants during August was again concentrated amongst male workers; since the end of the war, labour market developments have been most extensive for men. At August 29, there were 114,000 male unplaced applicants as compared with 126,000 at August 1; monthly declines occurred of 12,000 in August, 14,000 in July, and 30,000 in June. Female unplaced applicants numbered 31,000 at the end of August as compared with 35,000 at the beginning of the month; monthly declines were 4,000 in August, 2,000 in July, and 3,000 in June.

The proportion of unreferred applicants (workers registered as unplaced who have not yet been referred to jobs) to all unplaced applicants was 92.4 per cent at August 29, a decrease of .6 points during the month and of 4.6 points since the end of March when the ratio was at its 1946 peak.

Unemployment greatest in Maritime and Pacific—The Maritime and Pacific regions continue to carry the heaviest burdens of unemployment as related to the non-agricultural labour force, (see Table II at end of section). It should be noted that the incidence of regional unemployment has been based on the non-agricultural and not on the total labour force. The picture thus presented is more accurate, since unemployment by definition is almost completely relevant to the non-agricultural sector of the economy. What occurs in the agricultural sector of the economy can be more adequately designated as "under-employment". In the remaining three regions, Quebec, Ontario, and the Prairies, the unemployment load is quite light.

Unfilled vacancies up 11,000 in August—Unfilled vacancies totalled 117,000 at August 29. This was 11,000 higher than the number of unfilled jobs registered at the Employment Service at August 1. Of this increase in labour requirements, 6,000 was for male workers and 5,000 for female help. With respect to men, labour requirements rose in the lumber logging industry of Quebec and Ontario, in gold mining and food processing in the Prairies, in the manufacture of lumber, pulp and paper, and non-ferrous metal products in Ontario, in communications in Ontario and the Prairies, and in retail trade all across Canada. Labour demand in building construction fell off during the month.

Matching of jobs and applicants still a major problem—The inequitable occupational distribution of jobs and workers continues to be fairly extensive. Currently, about 40 per cent of all jobs are of a skilled and semi-skilled nature, whereas only 30 per cent of all applicants have such qualifications.

Many phases of the inequitable occupational distribution of jobs and workers continue to be outstanding features of the labour market. Although the jobs available for female workers in the professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service groups are slightly greater than the number of applicants, there is a heavy excess of male applicants in these occupations as shown in Table III. On the other hand, male applicants and jobs are about equal in the skilled and semi-skilled trades, whereas there are almost two jobs for every female worker in this field. With respect to the unskilled occupations, the labour market is very "tight" for female workers and very "loose" for male job seekers.

Drop in live claims during July—In the last week of July, 68,535 workers signed the live unemployment register as compared with 82,382 in the same period of June and with 19,224 in the same period of July, 1945. About 43 per cent of all unplaced applicants, therefore, were claiming the protection of unemployment insurance at July 31, although not all would qualify for benefits; it was 46 per cent at the end of June. Male live claims declined from 60,210 to 48,864 during July, and female claims dropped from 22,172 to 19,671. These declines continue to reflect the substantial decreases in jobless workers which have been occurring. There were 9,221 claims disallowed during July, as compared with 7,404 in May and with 1,525 in July, 1945. The rapid rise in claims disallowed because of loss of work due to labour disputes, from 962 to 3,304, accounted for the increase; 2,421 were due to insufficient contributions, a decline from the previous month, and 2,158 were for leaving work without just cause, about the same as in June.

Benefit payments decline as re-employment increases—During May, 1946, the payment of unemployment insurance benefits to 49,835 workers was stopped. The major cause of this termination of payment was re-employment as 28,720 or 58 per cent of the workers concerned found new jobs. The termination of benefit payments rose sharply during the first three months of this year, from 37,814 in January to 61,478 in March, but dropped thereafter. The basis for this trend, of course, has been the changing employment conditions of the period. As jobs began to open up in the early spring, the proportion of payments terminated because of re-employment grew from 48 per cent in January to 62 per cent in April. The slight drop in this percentage during May was due to the fact that the number of workers whose payments were terminated because their benefit rights had been exhausted grew ever larger.

Exhausted benefit rights show steady climb—Since the turn of the year, as a matter of fact, the number of persons exhausting their benefit rights during each month has been increasing steadily. Monthly exhaustions more than tripled between January and June with the rate of increase being much greater for males than for females. Thus, during January, 7 per cent of all terminations were due to the exhaustion of benefit rights while by May the proportion had risen to 16 per cent. Obviously, this climb in the rate of exhaustion is most significant from the point of view of the effects of unemployment on the income and purchasing power of those concerned. It is notable also that in January, 14 per cent of all those whose benefit rights were exhausted were 60 years of age and over while by May this percentage had risen to 20; at the same time, labourers accounted for 28 per cent in January and 31 per cent in May.

Hourly Earnings

Average hourly earnings in manufacturing at July 1 were 70 cents, an increase over the 69.1 cents recorded at June 1. This gain largely resulted from larger rates of pay in the pulp and paper, lumber, non-ferrous metal, aircraft, and shipbuilding industries. Smaller gains also occurred in grain mills, bread and bakery plants, and metallic mining. On the other hand, hourly earnings declined in industries producing dairy and meat products, rubber, tobacco goods, automobiles and parts, and foundry and machine shop products. These declines were largely the result of labour disputes.

At July 1, hourly earnings in manufacturing firms producing durable goods were 75.8 cents and in those producing non-durable goods 64.1 cents. One year ago, at July 1, 1945, the respective figures were 77.0 and 61.2 cents. It is notable, therefore, that the ending of the war has produced a greater degree of equality in the average rates in the heavy and the light manufactured goods industries than previously existed.

Hours Worked

Average weekly hours worked in manufacturing at July 1 rose to 42.4 hours from 42.0 hours at June 1. This gain was due to the settlement of the strike in the lumber mills of British Columbia and to the fact that the Victoria Day holiday influenced the figures for June 1. Although not to the same extent, the celebration of St. Jean Baptiste Day in Quebec affected the figures for July 1. The increase in hours worked was greatest in manufactured goods industries. Labour disputes affected the non-durable sector as a result of strikes in rubber, textile and fur factories.

Strikes and Lock-Outs

Widespread labour unrest—Extensive industrial unrest continued throughout July and August. There were 42 strikes during July, six more than in the previous month, while workers involved totalled 49,800 as compared with 70,700 in June. Man-working days lost amounted to 918,300, a slight drop from the total of 935,200 working days lost in June, but nevertheless near a record level. Notable developments were the commencement of strikes in the basic iron and steel and electrical apparatus industries. Strikes continued amongst textile and clothing workers, rubber workers, chemical workers, and motor vehicle workers of the Chrysler Corporation. At the same time, disputes were terminated involving the Dominion Textile Company of Montreal, the Guelph Carpet and Worsted Spinning Mills, and carpet workers in Brantford and Toronto.

Strikes in key industries continue—During August, the major strikes in the steel, rubber, electrical apparatus, automobile, chemical, and textile industries continued. There was also intermittent strike action amongst clothing workers and employees of various mining companies. During the month, there was a return to work of the employees of the Monarch Knitting Company in Toronto, of the Calgary Iron Works, and of the Barringham Rubber Company in Oakville.

Industrial Production

Increase is centred in construction industry—The volume of industrial production grew slightly larger during July, mainly as a result of greater construction activity. Manufacturing output actually declined during the month. There were small gains in electric power output, in carloading, and in imports and exports. For July, the index of industrial production stood at 181.1, with the average level of 1935-39 equivalent to 100, as compared with 179.4 during June.

Table I—Employment Trends by Major Industrial Group

(Source: Employment & Payrolls Branch, D.B.S.)

Industry	Jan. 1, 1946	July 1, 1946	Change	
			No.	%
Consumer Non-Durable Finished Goods Industries.....	283,125	293,870	10,745	3.7
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Non-Durables.....	141,160	147,019	5,359	3.8
Consumer Durable Finished Goods Industries.....	117,228	130,450	13,222	11.3
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Durables.....	1,328	1,171	-157	-11.8
Producer Goods Industries.....	380,815	386,646	5,831	1.5
Total Manufacturing.....	924,156	959,156	35,000	3.8

Table II—Unemployment as a Percentage of the Non-Agricultural
Labour Force by Region

(Source: Labour Force Survey, D.B.S. Labour Demand and Supply, Research
and Statistics Branch)

Region	November 17, 1945			February 23, 1946			August 29, 1946		
	Non-Agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Non-Agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Non-Agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%
Maritimes..	303,000	12,000	4.0	310,000	22,000	7.1	324,000	21,000	6.5
Quebec....	1,072,000	60,000	5.6	1,011,000	85,000	8.4	1,025,000	36,000	3.5
Ontario....	1,300,000	54,000	4.2	1,282,000	80,000	6.2	1,332,000	47,000	3.5
Prairies..	462,000	24,000	5.2	488,000	40,000	8.2	515,000	20,000	3.9
Pacific...	322,000	19,000	5.9	344,000	33,000	9.6	356,000	21,000	5.9
Canada....	3,459,000	169,000	4.9	3,435,000	260,000	7.6	3,552,000	145,000	4.1

Table III—Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants by Occupation
as at August 29, 1946

(Source: Revised Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch)

Occupational Group	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Canada.....	70,870	46,366	117,236	113,959	30,866	144,845
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service.	7,960	21,223	29,183	26,893	19,611	46,504
Skilled and semi-skilled.....	38,515	9,930	48,445	37,677	5,313	42,990
Unskilled (a).....	24,395	15,213	39,608	49,389	5,962	55,351

(a) Includes farm hands and fishermen

UNEMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

AS MEASURED BY THE NUMBER OF
UNPLACED APPLICANTS

REPORTING TO THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

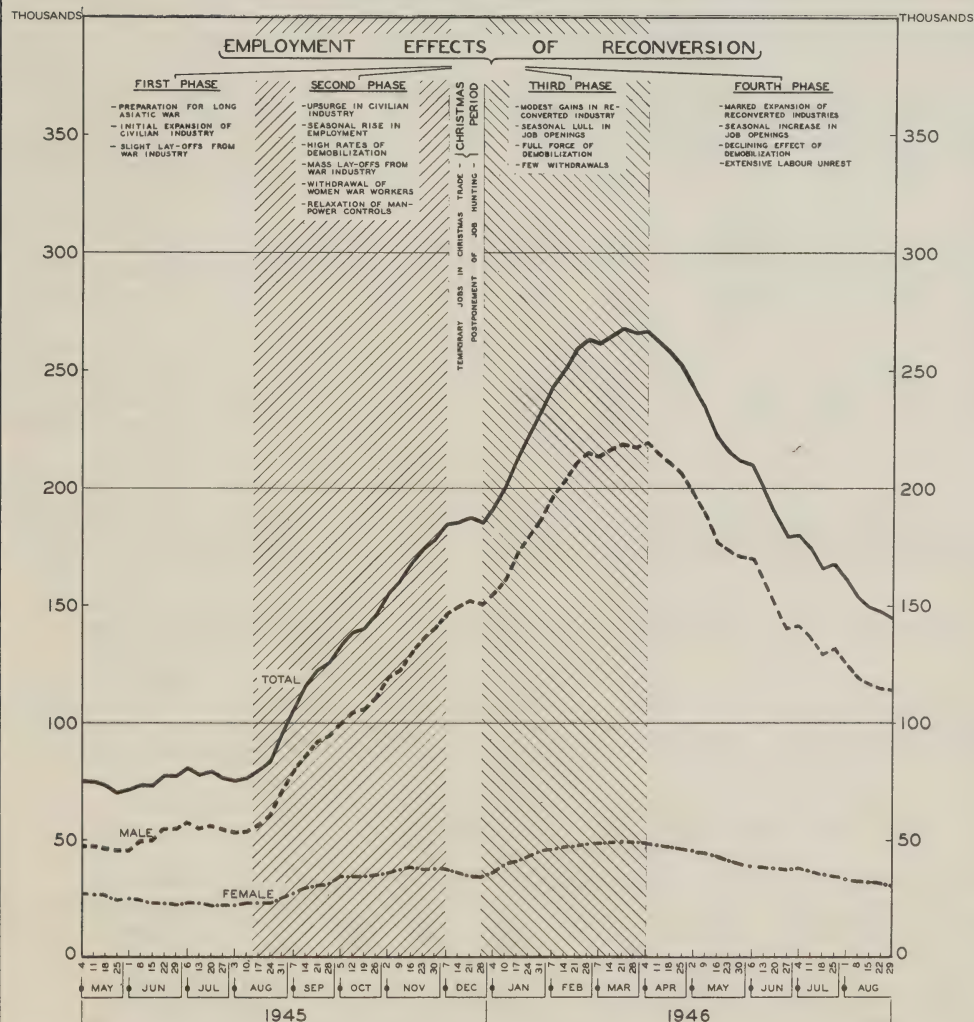


Table IV—Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note.—All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Features	July 1939	July 1940	July 1941	July 1942	July 1943	July 1944	July 1945	June 1946	July 1946
Employment (a) -									
Index (Av. 1926=100).....	115.8	124.1	155.4	173.1	180.7	180.7	173.3	168.6	172.1
(June 1, 1941=100)...	-	-	102.8	114.5	119.5	119.5	114.8	111.7	111.8
Number (thousands).....	1,243	1,332	1,668	1,858	1,940	1,940	1,861	1,810	1,848
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	424	428
Unemployment (b) -									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	68.8	77.8	210.4	176.7
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	40.2	54.8	170.1	140.0
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	28.6	23.0	40.3	36.7
Live Claims									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	4.7	17.2	98.8	82.4
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	3.5	9.2	74.1	60.2
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	1.2	8.0	24.7	22.2
Earnings (a) -									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941=100)...	-	-	103.6	128.7	144.3	147.0	143.9	137.0	141.9
Per capita weekly earnings.	-	-	25.60	28.55	30.99	31.75	32.37	31.80	32.34
Cost of Living (c) -									
(Av. 1935-39=100)...	-	105.6	111.9	117.9	118.8	119.0	120.3	123.6	125.1
Man-hours and hourly									
earnings (a) -									
Average hours per week.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	44.3	42.0	42.4
Average hourly earnings.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	70.1	69.1	70.0
Strikes and lockouts (b) -									
Number.....	10	21	29	68	39	23	27	36	42
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	4.4	8.6	22.2	21.7	15.7	9.6	12.0	70.7	49.8
Man-working days lost									
(thousands)	12.4	21.2	48.9	53.5	68.6	26.0	45.5	935.2	918.3
Industrial Production (d) -									
(Av. 1935-39=100)...	105.9	131.0	176.4	229.4	270.2	262.1	230.1	179.4	181.1

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

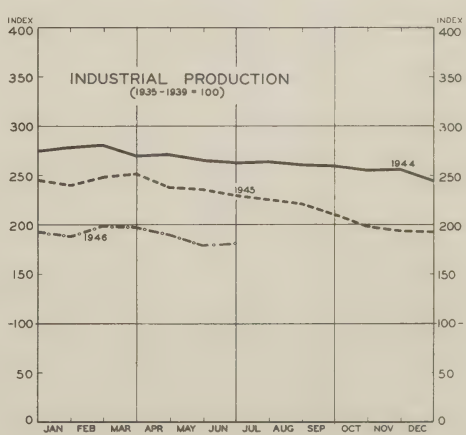
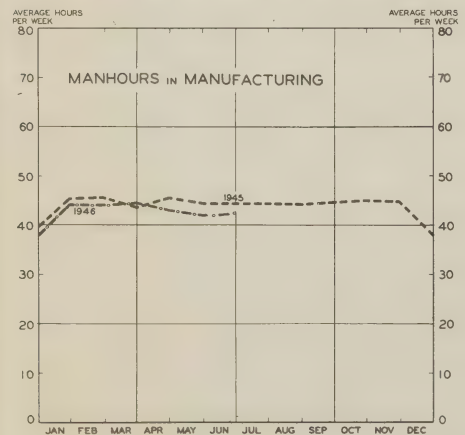
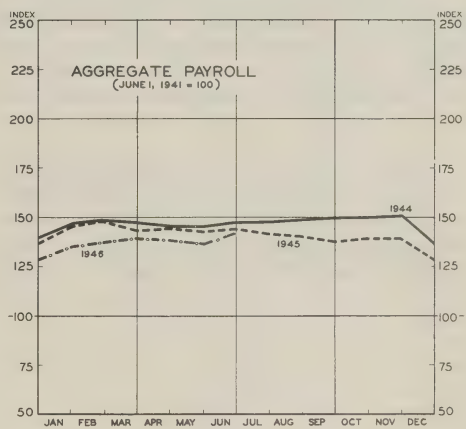
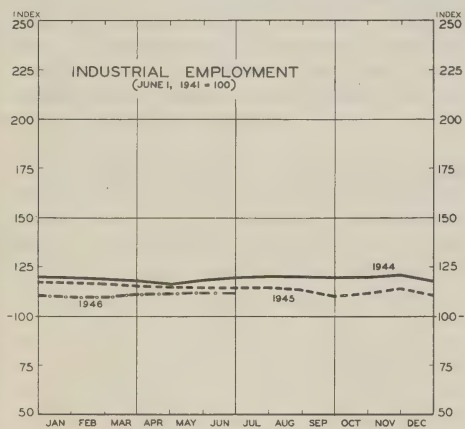
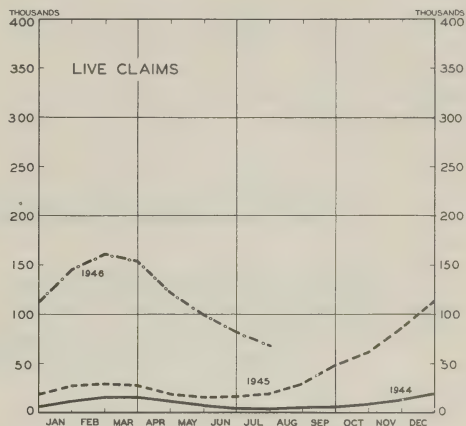
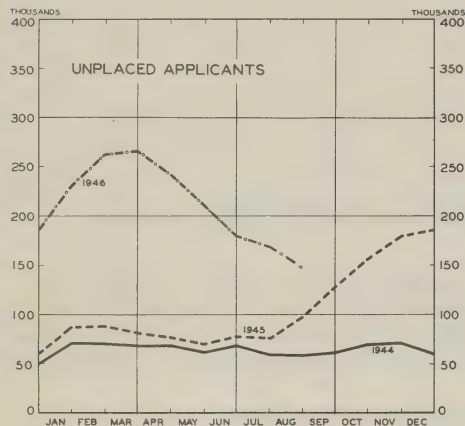
(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

SELECTED LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

1944 — 1945 — 1946



Section 3:- OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The relative immobility of labour is one of the fundamental problems confronting the effective use of Canada's economic resources. There has been a temporary "freezing" of workers in wartime occupations as a result of the enactment of the Unemployment Insurance Act during the war years.

Collection of unemployment insurance is allowed if workers cannot obtain similar jobs to those held during the war. Mobility of the labour force between occupations is hindered until these benefits are exhausted. The greatest barrier to movement of labour, geographically, is the acute shortage of housing accommodation throughout the Dominion. High transportation costs and inadequate information of employment conditions in the various sections of the country are also limiting factors.

Agriculture lends itself more readily to the movement of labour. The discontinuance of unemployment insurance benefits to applicants having agricultural experience tends to widen the potential source of supply for this industry. Most rural areas are not congested. Consequently, National Employment Service has been able to organize extensive transfers of workers throughout the country to meet the needs of the agricultural industry.

Vacancies Notified

Reference Table I, Table III and Table VIII

Drop in vacancies—Hardly recuperated from the crippling effects of the recent strikes in the United States, industries throughout the country are experiencing further set-backs due to current work stoppage in vital basic industries. Practically all industries reported fewer jobs in July than in June, with the manufacturing industry particularly, adversely affected. The mining industry, however, has maintained a steadily growing demand for labour despite the generally uneasy labour situation within this industry.

Job accumulation nil during July—Jobs are being filled more rapidly than they are reported. Although 35,000 non-agricultural jobs were reported per week in July, there were fewer vacancies available at the end of July than one month earlier. Employers are probably cancelling many orders because of prevailing uncertain employment conditions.

Effects of strikes on manufacturing industries—The anticipated expansion of employment opportunities has been curtailed in practically all manufacturing industries as a result of strike action which has jeopardized the supply of essential raw materials. Work stoppages in basic steel plants have critically affected automobile, foundry, and farm machinery production. Similarly the current shortage of soda ash due to the strike in a chemical manufacturing plant gravely affected glass making, pulp and paper production, soap manufacturing, and various metal-processing operations. Prolonged curtailment of glass production, in turn, will seriously hinder operations in food processing plants. Despite this threat, manpower requirements of food processing plants rose in anticipation of an extremely active season. On the other hand, effects of the rubber and textile strikes were reflected in sharp declines in vacancies in these industries.

Employment prospects in the construction industry—Contracts awarded for all types of construction projects during the first half of 1946 totalled three hundred and forty-two million dollars, representing an approximate 100 per cent increase over the same period in 1945. The high production goals set for the next two years present exceptionally good employment prospects in the construction field. Activity continues to be gravely handicapped by shortages of supplies and skilled tradesmen. Existing material shortages have been further aggravated by current strikes in steel and electrical plants. A delay in construction in some areas has been necessitated by the shortage of trained help. Although many of those registered at employment offices as skilled or semi-skilled construction workers are not qualified workmen, they have been steadily absorbed; unemployment among these workers has dropped from 18,000 to 5,000. Average weekly vacancies reported to National Employment Service offices totalled 5,100 in July. No accumulation of vacancies was evident during the month; unfilled vacancies at the end of July totalled 11,000, representing practically no change from the number reported as at the first of the month.

Incomplete reporting in trade establishments—Current wage increases, steadily rising employment, back-log of savings and the active tourist traffic have resulted in an exceptionally high level of purchasing power at this time. Physical volume of business during July, however, according to preliminary estimates, remained practically unchanged from the June level. Expansion of employment in trade establishments has been steadily maintained during the past few

months despite the uncertain flow of goods onto the market. Since personal appearance plays such an important part in sales work, "gate-post" hiring is high in this industry. Consequently, jobs reported to employment offices do not represent a complete picture of employment opportunities. As a result, unemployment among those registered as sales workers at employment offices remains high. During July, average weekly vacancies reported in trade establishments totalled 3,460.

Generous supply of service jobs—Although the temporary employment of students and teachers has eased the immediate shortage of service workers, a back-log of demand persists. No long-run solution of this problem is in sight. Present wage rates compare favourably with many alternative occupations, but poor working conditions and long hours continue to hamper placements in this line of employment. In addition, the low coverage of unemployment insurance, discourages workers from accepting many service jobs. The shortage of domestic servants, in particular, is acute. Although Home Aide programs have established a standard for wages, hours and working conditions, the adoption of these programs has been limited. The current number of vacancies reported in service industries other than public and professional, were considerably fewer in number than those reported in June. There were, however, 18,000 jobs unfilled at the end of July.

Applicants Registered

Reference—Table II and Table III

Decline in applications—The number seeking jobs at National Employment offices declined during July, in contrast to the upward trend in work applications filed during the previous three months. Approximately 36,000 workers per week sought employment in July as compared with 38,000 in June. These figures do not represent a complete picture of persons not working, since workers on strike are not considered applicants, in that they are still actually "employed". Rather, they represent the number searching for jobs, other than those temporarily displaced because of labour disputes. Over-all unemployment dropped less rapidly in July than during May and June, despite the fact that current job-seekers were fewer. The paralyzing effect of current strike activity lessened the speedy absorption of workers into the employment stream.

Impact of strike on unemployment—The falling off of male applicants in Ontario and British Columbia accounted largely for the current decline in applications. Unemployment remained at approximately the same level throughout July, despite this drop in Ontario. The anticipated expansion in practically all employment fields was jeopardized by the wide-spread basic industry strikes. Fewer applicants in British Columbia were reflected in a sharp reduction of unemployment, in contrast to Ontario. Settlement of the lumber industry strike stimulated industrial activity throughout the province. Strikes in eastern Canada, however, are already cutting short essential supplies and may result in a contraction of employment shortly.

A survey of the unREFERRED applicants at July 25 indicates several important developments.

- (1) Drop in unemployment during July was confined entirely to insurance claimants. Non-claimants rose, however, probably because of the influx of new entrants into the labour market. At the end of July, 62 per cent of the unREFERRED applicants were claiming insurance as compared with 64 per cent, four weeks earlier.

- (2) A larger proportion of the drop in unemployment took place among workers under 45 than in the older age group. As demobilization nears completion, fewer of the unemployed will be young workers.
- (3) There was a sharp drop in male heavy labourers. This reflects the absorption of physically fit young men into the expanding seasonal industries such as construction and agriculture.

Current applications exceed vacancies—Applications for work continued to outnumber vacancies reported during the month of July. In the current period, however, demand in comparison with supply, was more equally divided. This is due largely to the temporary drop in vacancies in Ontario. Table III gives the percentage distribution of demand and supply, by provincial break-down, during July.

Referrals

Reference Table II and Table IX

Referral activity limited by type of worker available—Referral activity slackened during July, following the gradual decline in job opportunities reported to the National Employment Service. Average weekly non-agricultural referrals totalled 26,000. In addition, approximately 1,000 workers per week were referred to agricultural jobs. The zone of full employment has practically been reached, consequently labour presently available at National Employment Service offices chiefly represents unemployables or those located in seriously depressed areas where employment opportunities are negligible. The influx of strikers, has provided a potential source of labour supply for temporary employment during the past few months. Many excellent types of workers who are presently employed are using the facilities of the National Employment Service to better their present status.

More referrals per job available—The decline in available job opportunities, including those on file at the beginning of the month, was considerably greater than the drop in referral activity during July. Whereas in June, 41 referrals were effected for every 100 jobs available, by July the ratio had changed to 45:100.

Placements

Reference Table V and Table X

Constant level of placements—Placements during July showed little change from those reported one month earlier. This constant level of placements has been maintained during the past few months despite declining job opportunities and diminishing sources of labour supply. Non-agricultural placements during July totalled 17,000 per week while weekly placements in agricultural jobs numbered 1,000. Of the non-agricultural placements, 90 per cent were regular, 8 per cent represent employment of 7 days duration or less, while 2 per cent resulted from the transfer in of applicants from other local office areas.

Placements by industry—Seasonal expansion in logging and transportation resulted in an increasing absorption of workers in these industries during July. Placements in manufacturing firms dropped during the month, as might be expected with the current strike activity. A further jump, however, was reported in the number placed in food processing establishments. Although vacancies in food manufacturing plants have risen sharply, placements have more than kept pace. It would appear that there should be no serious labour shortage in this

industry if the present rate of filling vacancies is maintained.

Fewer referrals to placements—A slight rise was evident in the number of placements effected as compared with referrals during July. There were 65 placements for every 100 referrals effected during the current month.

Executive and Professional Offices Reference Table VI

Survey of employment opportunities for university graduates—A national survey now is being undertaken to assemble authentic information on future employment opportunities for university-trained personnel during the next four years. This project will provide valuable assistance in guiding persons into occupations where they are most needed and where employment prospects are good. It is designed particularly to aid in the counselling of veterans who are taking advantage of university training as a part of their rehabilitation. Information will be gathered from employers of university training personnel, including the Federal and Provincial governments, and from various professional institutes.

Unemployment drops—Fewer applicants currently registering in the Executive and Professional division accounted for the marked decline in unemployment in this section during July. Similarly, referrals and placements dropped off during the month. Average weekly placements during July totalled 41 as compared with 58 during the previous month. At the end of July, 1,244 vacancies were on file while unplaced applicants numbered 1,916.

"Handicapped" section of the employment service—Unemployment among handicapped workers continues to rise. This is due to the reclassification of applicants in Quebec, whereby men over 60 are now dealt with in the "handicapped" section. At July 13, there were 6,902 unemployed applicants, either physically or mentally handicapped.

Efforts of the employment offices to place disabled workers during the prevailing "easy" labour market conditions have resulted in a high level of placement activity. The Employment Service placed 1,213 handicapped persons from June 15 to July 13, a figure comparable to placements effected during the peak reached in October, 1945. The unemployment situation is more acute for men than for women. Unemployment among male handicapped workers at the period end, numbering 6,408, comprised 93 per cent of the unplaced applicants in this category. Of the placements effected during the period, 80 per cent were male and 20 per cent were female workers.

Engagements Without Referral of the Employment Service Reference Table VII and Table XI

Direct hiring continues to increase—Increasing numbers of workers are able to obtain employment without using the facilities offered by the National Employment Service despite current labour unrest. Engagements without referral in manufacturing industries maintained the upward trend evident during the past few months, whereas placement operations of National Employment Service in these industries declined markedly during the current period. There were 27,000 non-agricultural engagements without referral reported per week in July as compared with 17,000 placements by National Employment Service. This steadily increasing difference indicates to what a large extent employers and applicants are bypassing the Employment Service.

Rise common to all industries—Expansion in the number of engagements without referral was reported in practically all industries. Seasonal activity in the construction and transportation industries resulted in a substantial rise in engagements. Hiring of additional male workers in Ontario, British Columbia, and Quebec accounted largely for the July increase.

Separations
Reference Table XII

Separation rate constant—Current labour turnover, as indicated by termination of employment, has remained fairly constant during the past few months. Approximately 28,000 non-agricultural separations were reported each week in July, of which more than one-third were in manufacturing establishments and approximately one-fifth in the construction industry. Separations in the mining industry are markedly higher than the number reported during the comparative period in 1945, and slightly more than those reported during the previous month. Mining companies are reporting a steady exodus of workers from the mines, with no substantial replenishment in sight.

Table I—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified,
By Province and by Sex, July, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies		
	Male	Female	Total
Canada.....	24,437	10,371	34,808
Maritime Provinces.....	1,585	614	2,199
Quebec.....	5,560	1,783	7,323
Ontario.....	10,311	4,832	15,143
Prairie Provinces.....	3,457	1,832	5,289
British Columbia.....	3,524	1,330	4,854

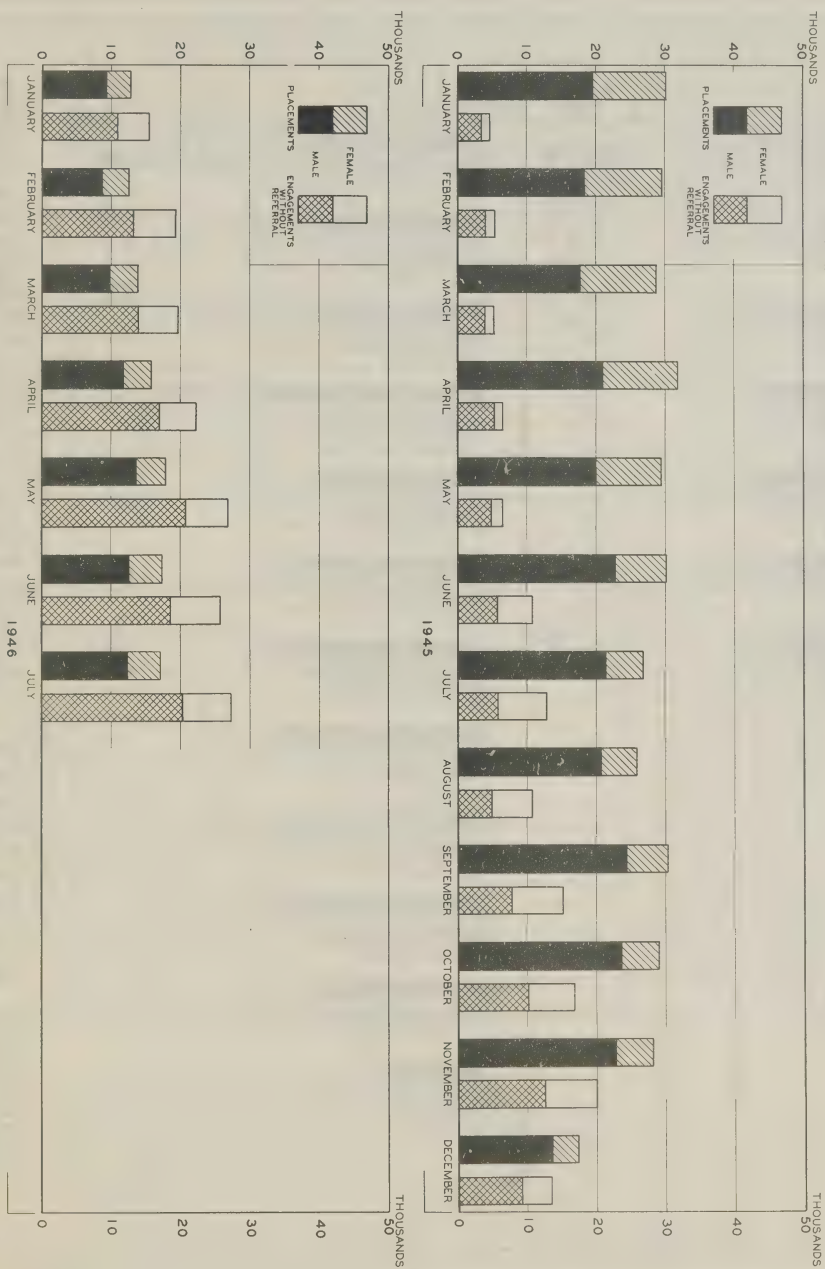
Table II—Unreferred Applicants by Age Group and By Sex,
As at July 25, 1946

(Source: Forms UIC 757-759)

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
TOTAL.....	122,705	32,897	155,592
Under 20.....	13,744	6,363	20,107
20 — 45.....	72,082	22,805	94,887
46 — 60.....	22,486	3,339	25,825
Over 60.....	14,393	380	14,773

PLACEMENTS BY THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AS COMPARED WITH WORKERS OBTAINING THEIR OWN JOBS

NOTE: FIGURES HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH



SOURCE: U.I.C. 751

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART, M.I. 7.1

OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ON A COMPARATIVE MONTHLY BASIS

THOUSANDS
NOTE: FIGURES HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH
THOUSANDS

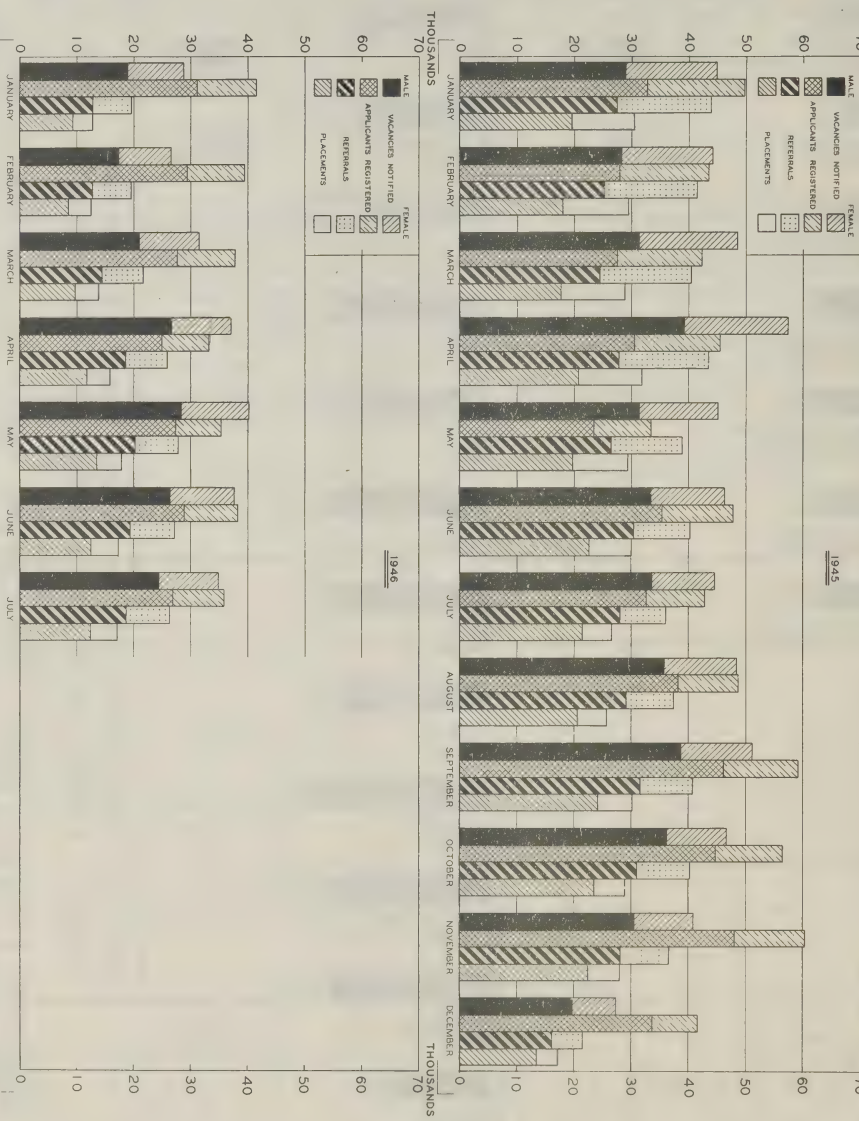


Table III—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified
And Applicants Registered, by Province, During July, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies		Average Weekly Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Canada.....	34,808	100	35,802	100
Maritime Provinces.....	2,199	6	2,964	8
Quebec.....	7,323	21	7,898	22
Ontario.....	15,143	44	13,436	38
Prairie Provinces.....	5,289	15	6,545	18
British Columbia.....	4,854	14	4,959	14

Table IV—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Referrals by Sex,
From July, 1945 to July, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Month		Male	Female	Total
July,	1945.....	28,217	7,885	36,102
August	"	29,431	7,943	37,374
September	"	31,653	9,303	40,956
October	"	31,197	8,924	40,121
November	"	28,238	8,669	36,907
December	"	16,198	5,448	21,646
January,	1946.....	12,949	6,795	19,744
February	"	12,924	6,725	19,649
March	"	14,547	7,400	21,947
April	"	18,742	7,286	26,028
May	"	20,224	7,683	27,907
June	"	19,416	7,868	27,284
July	"	18,693	7,580	26,273

Table V--Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Placements by Sex,
From July, 1945 to July, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Month		Male	Female	Total
July,	1945.....	21,396	5,469	26,865
August	"	20,766	5,093	25,859
September	"	24,239	5,972	30,211
October	"	23,621	5,379	29,000
November	"	22,823	5,307	28,130
December	"	15,765	3,703	17,468
January,	1946.....	9,177	3,763	12,940
February	"	8,643	3,816	12,459
March	"	9,812	4,159	13,971
April	"	11,871	4,059	15,930
May	"	13,598	4,387	17,985
June	"	12,682	4,686	17,368
July	"	12,350	4,665	17,015

Table VI--Average Weekly Placement Operations of Executive and
Professional Offices During July, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Office	Applications	Vacancies	Referrals	Placements
TOTAL.....	279	174	240	41
Moncton.....	12	5	9	4
Montreal.....	110	46	53	9
Toronto.....	89	82	121	15
Winnipeg.....	20	26	31	4
Vancouver.....	48	15	26	7

Table VII--Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Engagements Without Referral,
By Province During June, 1946 and July, 1946, With Percentage Change
During Month.

(Source: UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Engagements		
	July, 1946	June, 1946	Per Cent Change
Canada.....	27,141	25,880	+ 5
Maritime Provinces.....	1,734	2,026	+14
Quebec.....	8,682	8,349	+ 4
Ontario.....	9,717	9,050	+ 7
Prarie Provinces.....	3,426	3,722	- 8
British Columbia.....	3,592	2,733	+31

Table VIII—Non-agricultural Vacancies Notified as Reported by the
National Employment Service, July, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Vacancies during Month	Average Weekly Vacancies		
		Number	% Change From	
			June 1946	July 1945
All industries.....	174,041	34,808	- 7.7	-22.2
Logging.....	17,056	3,411	- 8.8	- 5.4
Mining.....	5,452	1,090	6.4	-
Manufacturing.....	53,912	10,782	- 8.9	-36.7
Food and kindred products.....	12,349	2,470	27.8	-18.6
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	7,375	1,475	-18.0	-33.1
Lumber and finished lumber products...	6,414	1,283	- 9.7	-22.6
Pulp and paper products and printing..	4,699	940	-28.7	-47.6
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,516	303	-20.1	-42.0
Products of petroleum and coal.....	475	95	5.6	-36.7
Rubber goods.....	557	111	-60.2	-68.9
Leather and products.....	1,338	268	5.5	-23.0
Stone, clay and glass products.....	2,127	425	- 1.6	1.0
Iron and steel and their products.....	4,315	863	-15.7	-54.6
Non-ferrous metals.....	2,505	501	1.2	- 9.1
Machinery.....	4,879	976	- 5.5	- 8.1
Transportation equipment.....	3,476	695	-23.8	-73.3
Miscellaneous.....	1,887	377	-18.2	- 9.4
Construction.....	25,535	5,107	- 3.9	-14.1
Transportation and storage.....	9,330	1,866	- 3.9	-48.5
Other public utilities.....	2,513	503	- 9.9	0.8
Trade.....	17,301	3,460	- 7.2	-24.2
Finance and insurance.....	2,939	588	- 1.7	-13.9
Public and professional service.....	11,854	2,371	- 8.4	7.1
Other service.....	28,149	5,630	-11.6	- 3.9

Table IX—Non-agricultural Referrals as Reported by the
National Employment Service, July, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Refer- rals During Month	Average Weekly Referrals		
		Number	% Change From	
			June 1946	July 1945
All industries.....	131,364	26,273	- 3.7	-27.2
Logging.....	4,167	834	22.5	-55.7
Mining.....	3,467	693	- 16.3	-23.7
Manufacturing.....	40,071	8,014	- 8.9	-38.8
Food and kindred products.....	8,429	1,686	8.5	-27.0
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	4,460	892	- 20.7	-31.4
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	4,978	995	2.4	-28.0
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	3,373	675	- 22.4	-36.4
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,563	313	- 3.1	-35.5
Products of petroleum and coal.....	374	75	- 5.1	-53.7
Rubber goods.....	296	59	- 67.9	-75.2
Leather and products.....	822	164	- 11.4	-32.0
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,768	354	- 1.9	- 6.6
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,791	758	- 13.9	-55.1
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,876	375	5.3	-20.4
Machinery.....	4,137	827	- 7.8	-11.7
Transportation equipment.....	2,775	555	- 18.3	-73.3
Miscellaneous.....	1,429	286	- 12.8	-19.4
Construction.....	21,457	4,292	- 1.6	- 5.7
Transportation and storage.....	7,420	1,484	11.1	-57.6
Other public utilities.....	1,660	332	- 7.0	-28.6
Trade.....	17,268	3,454	- 4.9	-23.3
Finance and insurance.....	2,450	490	- 7.2	-16.5
Public and professional service.....	9,912	1,982	- 6.6	- 4.2
Other service.....	23,492	4,699	- 1.1	- 0.3

Table X—Non-agricultural Placements as Reported by the
National Employment Service, July, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Place- ments During Month	Average Weekly Placements		
		Number	% Change From	
			June 1946	July 1945
All industries.....	85,077	17,015	-2.0	-36.7
Logging.....	3,609	722	26.2	-58.6
Mining.....	2,726	545	-19.1	-25.7
Manufacturing.....	24,234	4,847	-6.8	-47.6
Food and kindred products.....	5,154	1,031	15.7	-37.5
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	2,711	542	-23.1	-37.7
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	3,421	684	10.0	-38.0
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	2,180	436	-21.0	-48.4
Chemicals and allied products.....	798	160	6.7	-53.0
Products of petroleum and coal.....	194	39	18.2	-65.2
Rubber goods.....	207	41	-66.4	-78.9
Leather and products.....	440	88	-12.9	-43.2
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,052	210	4.0	-16.7
Iron and steel and their products.....	2,169	434	-12.0	-60.9
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,094	219	6.3	-32.2
Machinery.....	2,220	444	-7.1	-28.6
Transportation equipment.....	1,773	355	-25.9	-75.5
Miscellaneous.....	821	164	-2.4	-25.8
Construction.....	15,402	3,080	-1.7	-11.0
Transportation and storage.....	4,706	941	11.9	-65.2
Other public utilities.....	1,228	245	-2.8	-35.5
Trade.....	9,585	1,917	-0.7	-37.2
Finance and insurance.....	1,283	257	10.8	-32.7
Public and professional service.....	6,404	1,281	-8.1	-17.6
Other service.....	15,900	3,180	1.4	-11.9

Table XI—Non-agricultural Engagements Without Referral as
Reported by the National Employment Service, July, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Engage- ments During Month	Average Weekly Engagements		
		Number	% Change From	
			June 1946	July 1945
All industries.....	135,706	27,141	4.9	113.2
Logging.....	10,092	2,018	1.2	201.6
Mining.....	4,072	814	-10.0	145.2
Manufacturing.....	44,803	8,961	4.0	120.2
Food and kindred products.....	9,085	1,817	25.3	104.4
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	5,440	1,088	-11.0	71.3
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	6,811	1,362	32.9	174.0
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	5,064	1,012	7.9	158.2
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,411	282	1.4	95.8
Products of petroleum and coal.....	671	134	48.9	272.2
Rubber goods.....	463	93	-49.7	47.6
Leather and products.....	1,275	255	-12.1	142.9
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,425	285	- 9.8	196.9
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,569	714	- 5.8	93.5
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,502	301	3.8	168.8
Machinery.....	3,133	627	5.0	190.3
Transportation equipment.....	3,499	700	-15.4	82.3
Miscellaneous.....	1,455	291	-16.9	122.1
Construction.....	18,685	3,737	11.3	421.2
Transportation and storage.....	10,086	2,017	16.7	148.1
Other public utilities.....	3,023	605	4.1	139.1
Trade.....	15,350	3,070	6.0	32.4
Finance and insurance.....	2,930	586	19.6	40.9
Public and professional service.....	10,365	2,073	- 4.6	140.2
Other service.....	16,300	3,260	3.9	43.1

Table XII—Non-agricultural Separations as Reported by the
National Employment Service, July, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Separa- tions During Month	Average Weekly Separations		
		Number	% Change From	
			June 1946	July 1945
All industries.....	140,028	28,006	- 1.3	-14.0
Logging.....	8,307	1,662	0.3	-24.6
Mining.....	5,245	1,049	4.5	31.6
Manufacturing.....	54,713	10,943	- 5.0	-28.6
Food and kindred products.....	8,552	1,711	15.8	- 7.2
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	7,805	1,561	-10.5	- 4.8
Lumber and finished lumber products....	5,384	1,077	- 2.4	-12.0
Pulp and paper products and printing...	4,409	882	- 2.0	- 1.6
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,731	346	-25.3	-68.3
Products of petroleum and coal.....	520	104	9.5	- 1.9
Rubber goods.....	911	182	-41.5	-28.9
Leather and products.....	1,523	305	-11.3	- 1.3
Stone, clay and glass products.....	2,161	432	24.5	74.2
Iron and steel and their products.....	5,092	1,018	- 6.8	-61.4
Non-ferrous metals.....	2,043	409	- 6.2	-18.4
Machinery.....	5,201	1,040	-15.5	3.6
Transportation equipment.....	7,351	1,470	- 3.0	-53.2
Miscellaneous.....	2,030	406	-11.2	- 5.6
Construction.....	20,422	4,084	9.6	57.7
Transportation and storage.....	9,061	1,812	- 0.7	-23.8
Other public utilities.....	2,147	429	12.0	38.4
Trade.....	15,265	3,053	- 5.4	- 6.7
Finance and insurance.....	2,281	456	- 2.8	- 9.7
Public and professional service.....	8,874	1,775	- 5.6	-13.8
Other service.....	13,713	2,743	2.1	-12.5

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PART II

DEMOBILIZATION AND RECONVERSION

Section I:-- ACTIVITIES OF EX- SERVICE PERSONNEL

The declining rate of demobilization continued in July, with 20,000 service personnel discharged as compared with 23,000 in June.

During July there was a decided upswing in the number of ex-servicemen registering for employment at National Employment Service offices. The number of placements made during the same period remained approximately the same as that reported for one month earlier. Reinstatements continued to fall off.

With the labour force nearing a figure which might be considered its "normal" post-war strength, it should soon be possible to gauge the economy's absorptive capacity with respect to ex-servicemen. At the end of July, the number of unplaced ex-servicemen was less than that one month earlier despite strikes and material shortages. The occupational composition of unplaced ex-service personnel underwent a change when a percentage decrease took place in the number registering as skilled or semi-skilled and an increase in the number of unskilled workers.

Discharges

Demobilization approaches the finish line—With demobilization virtually completed, the flow of ex-service personnel from the armed forces dropped from 23,000 in June to 20,000 in July. This decrease is significant when viewed in the light of what took place during the three previous months when the monthly decline of discharged personnel ranged from 15,000 to 17,000 per month. The total number discharged since the beginning of the war now stands at 945,000. At the end of July, the effective strength of the armed forces was 82,000. This figure excludes deserters, those missing, those on extended leave and those seconded. Table I shows discharges, by months, January, 1945 to July, 1946, inclusive.

Applications for Employment in National Selective Service Offices

Jobs registrants up 2,000 in July—During July, 45,261 ex-servicemen registered at National Employment Service offices, an increase of more than 2,000 over the figure for the previous month. Most of this increase was made up of World War II applicants classified as revivals. They constitute more than 46 per cent of those registering. Contrary to the theory that with decreased demobilization would come a decrease in number of applicants registering for employment for the first time since their release, this group also showed an

increase. This gain is due to the fact that many ex-servicemen are accepting seasonal jobs while awaiting the reopening of schools and universities.

It is significant that while the number of ex-service personnel registering for employment during June constituted 28 per cent of the total applications, they dropped to 25 per cent during July. Table II shows the total number of discharges and applications of World War II ex-servicemen, by months, August, 1945 to July, 1946 inclusive.

Placements

Constant level maintained—In the face of strikes in many of the basic industries the number of ex-servicemen placed in jobs was maintained. In July, 23,776 persons found jobs as compared with 23,654 during the previous month. In addition to those placed, 4,239 ex-service personnel had been referred to specific jobs but notification of their placement or rejection had not yet been received. Twenty-eight per cent of all persons placed by National Employment Service offices during July were ex-servicemen, a drop of three per cent from the figure for the previous month.

It is interesting to note that while disabled veterans made up less than one-half of the group classified as handicapped, they accounted for 56 per cent of the placements. This is to be expected as in the majority of cases they are a younger group and have had some training to fit them for employment. During the period June 15 to July 13, 554 handicapped ex-service personnel were placed by National Employment Service offices and 92 by the Casualty Rehabilitation Officers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

During July, 22 per cent of the total ex-servicemen unplaced at the beginning of the month and those making application during the month were placed as compared with 24 per cent for civilians over the same period. Figures on applications and placements are shown in Table III.

Reinstatements

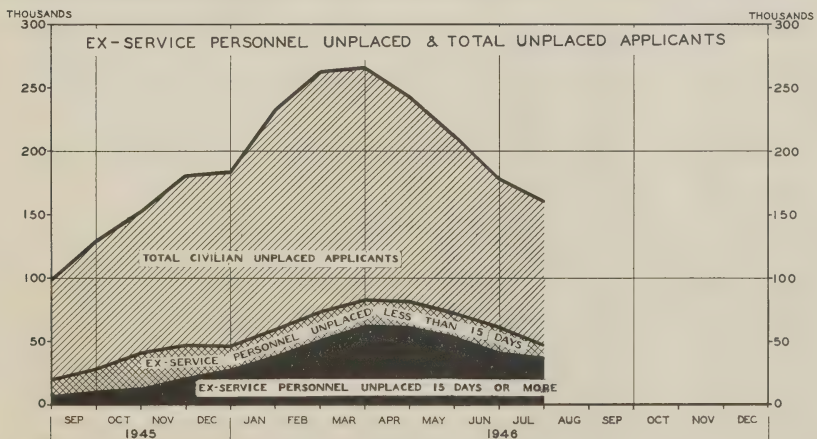
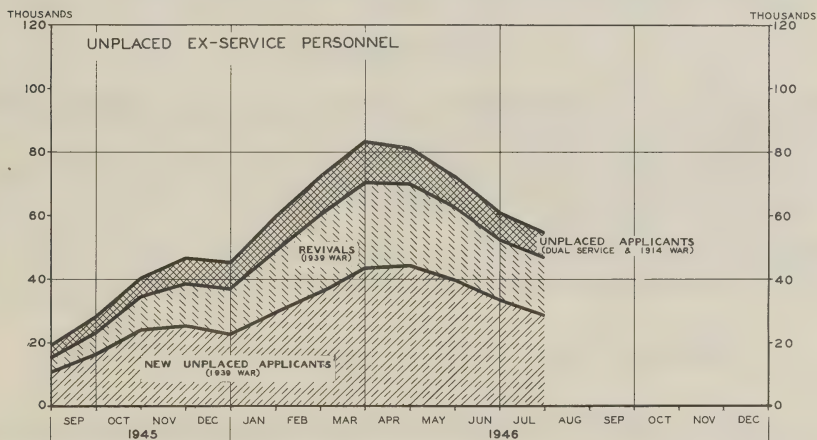
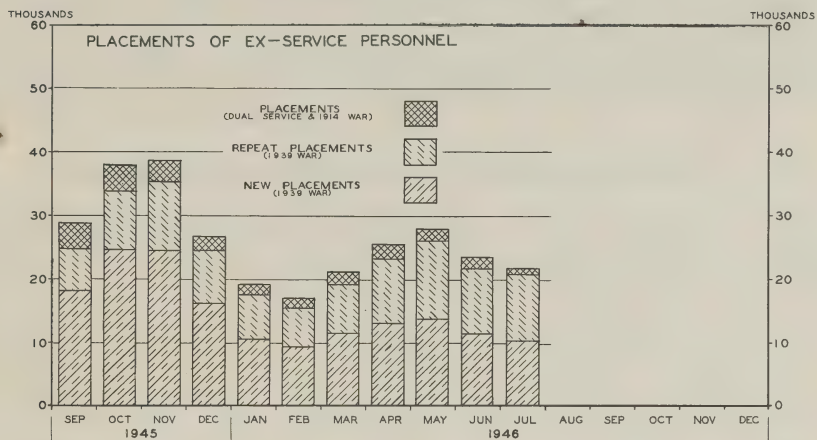
Decline in reinstatements follows slackened demobilization—As most servicemen planning to return to their pre-war jobs have been released from the forces, a decline in the number of reinstatements is to be expected. During July, 5,721 ex-servicemen were reinstated as compared with 7,665 in June. Since August, 1945, approximately 156,600 have been reinstated or 25 per cent of the total number of discharges for that period. Table IV shows the cumulative discharges and reinstatements, monthly, August, 1945 to July, 1946.

Unemployment

Sharp drop in unplaced ex-servicemen—Expanding employment opportunities and the decreased flow of personnel from the forces have caused the number of unplaced ex-servicemen to take another steep drop in July. At the end of the month there were 54,735 reported as unplaced applicants by National Employment Service offices, a decrease of more than 5,000 from the figure one month earlier. As was the case in the two previous months, the number of jobless veterans constituted 34 per cent of all unplaced applicants at the end of July. Of the 54,735 unemployed ex-service personnel, 37,765 or 69 per cent had been registered for 15 days or more. Table V shows total unplaced ex-servicemen and those unplaced 15 days or more, from May 31, 1945 to July 31, 1946.

APPLICANTS AND PLACEMENTS

EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL



Discharged personnel of World War II only, made up 86 per cent of those unplaced at July 31. Thirty-four per cent had been previously employed and the balance, approximately 28,500, were seeking employment for the first time since their discharge. A decreasing number of ex-servicemen are taking advantage of the out-of-work benefits provided under the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order. At the end of July, 27,108 were receiving payment as compared with 35,673 at June 29.

Occupational Classification of Ex-Service Personnel

Slight shift in occupational pattern—Some change is apparent in the occupational classification of unplaced ex-service personnel from the situation one month earlier. The percentage registered as agricultural workers is beginning to show the effects of increased activity in this field. The number of skilled and semi-skilled ex-servicemen decreased from 35 per cent at June 30 to 34 per cent at July 31 and the unskilled group increased from 34 per cent to 36 per cent for the same dates. The occupational classification for all applicants during this period was 30 per cent skilled or semi-skilled and 38 per cent unskilled. Table VI shows the percentage distribution by occupational groups, of unplaced ex-service personnel as at selected dates.

Future Prospects

Bright outlook when labour relations stabilized—As the effective strength of the armed forces was 82,000 at the end of July, it has been estimated that the rate of discharge for the next two months will not exceed 15,000. This number should be very easily absorbed into the labour market. Once the various industrial strikes are settled and production is resumed, many openings will appear for men now reported as unplaced as well as for others who have accepted seasonal jobs to tide them over this period. The lumbering industry will very soon assume greater importance and many men will likely be interested in the advantages it offers.

Table I—Number Discharged from Armed Forces, by Months
January, 1945 to July, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence)

Month	Navy	Army	Air Force	Total
January, 1945.....	588	3,320	7,850	11,758
February ".....	592	3,654	8,487	12,733
March ".....	672	3,249	3,791	7,712
April ".....	772	4,312	3,236	8,320
May ".....	657	6,119	3,023	9,799
June ".....	1,679	10,602	3,040	15,321
July ".....	3,139	15,393	5,996	24,528
August ".....	6,679	22,184	8,503	37,366
September ".....	9,878	34,093	30,773	74,744
October ".....	14,931	45,994	32,042	92,967
November ".....	15,712	35,813	13,873	65,398
December ".....	7,668	22,118	8,454	38,240
January, 1946.....	7,560	40,735	8,554	56,849
February ".....	7,552	48,665	9,018	65,235
March ".....	5,493	56,512	8,641	70,646
April ".....	4,998	44,439	6,325	55,762
May ".....	2,743	29,728	6,005	38,476
June ".....	1,768	17,081	4,048	22,897
July ".....	542	16,169	3,548	20,259

Table II--Discharges from Armed Forces and Applications of World War II
Dischargees by Months, August, 1945 to July, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Discharges	Applications	
		Applicants	Revivals
August, 1945.....	37,366	23,950	10,616
September "	74,744	31,351	12,092
October "	92,967	43,586	18,546
November "	65,398	37,726	20,329
December "	38,240	24,934	16,133
January, 1946.....	56,849	27,641	18,568
February "	65,235	25,025	17,075
March "	70,646	30,400	18,271
April "	55,762	26,288	16,874
May "	38,476	25,216	19,807
June "	22,897	20,166	18,961
July "	20,259	20,346	20,807

Table III--Live Applications and Placements of Ex-Servicemen
with Civilian Comparison, August, 1945 to July, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B and Form U.I.C. 751B)

Month	Live Applications (1)	Placements (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per cent (3)	Civilian Equivalents of (3)
August, 1945.....	53,963	22,541	41.8	41.6
September "	69,292	29,321	42.3	38.4
October "	98,125	38,298	39.0	34.3
November "	106,955	38,674	36.2	29.5
December "	93,652	26,653	28.5	21.4
January, 1946.....	98,002	19,454	19.9	15.7
February "	106,295	16,831	15.8	12.9
March "	125,474	21,228	16.9	14.7
April "	130,062	25,505	19.6	17.2
May "	130,206	28,522	21.9	19.6
June "	115,432	23,654	20.5	21.5
July "	106,429	23,776	22.3	24.4

Table IV—Cumulative Discharges and Reinstatements
Monthly, August, 1945 to July, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 8212)

Month	Cumulative Discharges since Aug. 1, 1945 (1)	Cumulative Reinstatements since Aug. 1, 1945 (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per cent
August 31, 1945.....	37,366	2,828	7.6
September 30, "	112,110	12,264	10.9
October 31, "	205,077	30,307	14.8
November 30, "	270,475	48,017	17.8
December 31, "	308,715	60,320	19.5
January 31, 1946.....	365,564	77,648	21.2
February 28, "	430,799	95,013	22.1
March 31, "	501,445	114,147	22.7
April 30, "	557,207	131,127	23.5
May 31, "	596,451	143,230	24.0
June 30, "	619,348	150,895	24.4
July 31, "	639,603	156,616	24.5

Table V—Unplaced Ex-Servicemen and Those Unplaced 15 Days or More
as at the End of the Month, May, 1945 to July, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Date	Unplaced Ex-Servicemen (1)	Ex-Servicemen Unplaced 15 Days or More (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
May 31, 1945.....	10,614	(a)	(a)
June 30, "	12,013	(a)	(a)
July 31, "	13,673	(a)	(a)
August 31, "	18,956	5,599	29.5
September 30, "	27,770	10,098	36.4
October 31, "	40,780	13,977	34.3
November 30, "	46,503	20,775	44.7
December 31, "	45,974	27,887	60.7
January 31, 1946.....	59,861	37,364	62.4
February 28, "	72,305	50,286	69.5
March 31, "	83,029	61,018	73.5
April 30, "	81,207	61,292	75.5
May 31, "	72,370	52,722	72.9
June 30, "	61,168	44,587	72.9
July 31, "	54,735	37,765	69.0

(a) Figures not available.

Table VI--Ex-Service Personnel Receiving Out-of-Work Benefits
as at the End of the Month, August, 1945 to July, 1946

(Source: Department of Veterans Affairs)

Date		Number "On Benefits"
August	31, 1945	606
September	30, "	725
October	31, "	1,300
November	30, "	2,853
December	31, "	8,549
January	31, 1946	21,698
February	28, "	32,817
March	31, "	43,524
April	27, "	49,552
May	1, "	40,699
June	29, "	35,673
August	3, "	27,108

Table VII--Percentage Distribution of Occupational Categories of Unplaced
Ex-Service Personnel as at Selected Dates, December, 1945;
March, 1946, June, 1946, July, 1946

(Source: Forms U.I.C. 757 and 759 for Ex-Service Personnel)

Occupational Group	Dec. 31, 1945	March 31, 1946	June 30, 1946	July 31, 1946
Professional and managerial workers....	5.6	4.5	5.6	5.8
Clerical workers.....	9.6	9.1	10.8	10.6
Sales workers.....	6.2	5.9	6.1	6.2
Service workers.....	5.6	4.8	5.3	5.1
Agricultural workers.....	1.5	3.2	2.7	2.0
Fishermen.....	0.1	0.5	0.6	0.6
Skilled and semi-skilled workers.....	36.9	36.9	35.1	33.7
Food products.....	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4
Textiles, clothing, etc.....	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5
Lumber and wood products.....	0.9	0.9	1.2	0.9
Pulp and paper products.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Printing.....	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Leather and products.....	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Stone, clay and glass.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Electrical.....	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3
Mining and quarrying.....	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6
Construction workers.....	5.0	4.9	3.2	3.2
Metalworkers.....	7.2	6.0	5.5	5.8
Miscellaneous.....	20.2	21.8	21.7	20.2
Unskilled workers.....	34.5	35.1	33.8	36.0
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Section 2:--EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

Agriculture	Pulp and Paper
Construction	Services
Mining	Automobile and Parts

Previously, this section of the "Canadian Labour Market" has been devoted to a study of various long-term aspects, such as employment, production, and exports and imports, of a single industry. In this and subsequent issues the approach will be to discuss the current labour situation in a number of industries with emphasis on employment trends, wages and hours and the general state of the labour market.

This month, three of the industries selected, agriculture, services, and construction, are approaching their seasonal peak and are the focus of considerable labour market activity. The other three industries included, while they have less seasonal variation and labour turnover, are in the news because of price and wage adjustments and labour disputes.

Agriculture

Activity now at seasonal peak—With the seasonal upswing in agriculture now at its peak, an estimated 1,300,000 people are now actively engaged in this industry, as compared with an average of slightly over a million during last winter. From the labour market point of view, probably the outstanding feature of this season has been the comparative plentitude of manpower available for the harvest, ending a five year dependency on such abnormal sources of labour supply as the military forces, P.O.W.'s and students. Secondary features have been the return of the transient agricultural labourer and the movement of agricultural workers from one section of the country to another. Examples of the latter were the transportation of some 2,000 prairie farmers to help with the eastern harvest; the spontaneous migration of thousands of workers to south-west Ontario to pick the tobacco crop; and the sending of a large body of women from the prairie provinces to British Columbia during the fruit season.

Crops generally above average—Although wide variations exist by region, fruit and field crops across Canada were very good on the whole. The grain yield in the Maritimes was below average, but the apple and potato crops were quite good, with the required number of pickers and handlers available from the local population. The early harvest in Ontario and Quebec was successfully brought in with some assistance from the west, as noted. The western

wheat crop is expected to be about 450 million bushels, well above last year's yield.

Western harvest now under way—To the end of August, no scarcity of harvesters was reported from any area in the three prairie provinces. Local labour plus about 1,500 easterners have supplied the necessary workforce. Regional employment offices in both Ontario and Quebec report a surplus of applicants wishing to take advantage of the cheap transportation rates to the west. This necessitated the establishment of a quota for each office and the careful screening of applicants. Approximately 1,000 men had been sent from Ontario in the first three weeks of August and the immediate needs for the harvest were filled.

Food processing and packing plants—During August, the picking and packing of the B.C. fruit and vegetable crop was in full swing and the demand for packinghouse workers was increasing. In the east, the season is later and the gathering of these crops was not expected to reach its peak until early in September.

Initial reports indicate that sufficient workers will be available to handle this year's bumper crop. In most areas, local labour will be sufficient to staff the canning and packing plants, although in B.C. efforts are being made to have the women who were brought down from the prairies as pickers transferred to interior packing houses wherever possible. In the Niagara district, over 700 female workers will be needed to process the abundant crop of peaches and 150 of these are expected to be brought in from the Winnipeg area. Campbell Soup in New Toronto will require 1,200 employees in the tomato season. The increased numbers of temporary unemployed, of women, and of students at present circulating on the labour market should be able to meet these demands and no spoilage of food is expected.

Agricultural wage rates—Farm wage rates have experienced a general upward movement to May 15, 1946 with the rate of increase approximating that of the 1944-45 season. The peak pay period in agriculture occurs around August 15 and this year's average at May was at the same level of last year's August high.

The three western provinces reported the highest wage rates. British Columbia led with rates of \$3.80 per day and \$79.60 per month with board. Prince Edward Island had the lowest rates at \$2.53 per day and \$55.76 per month with board.

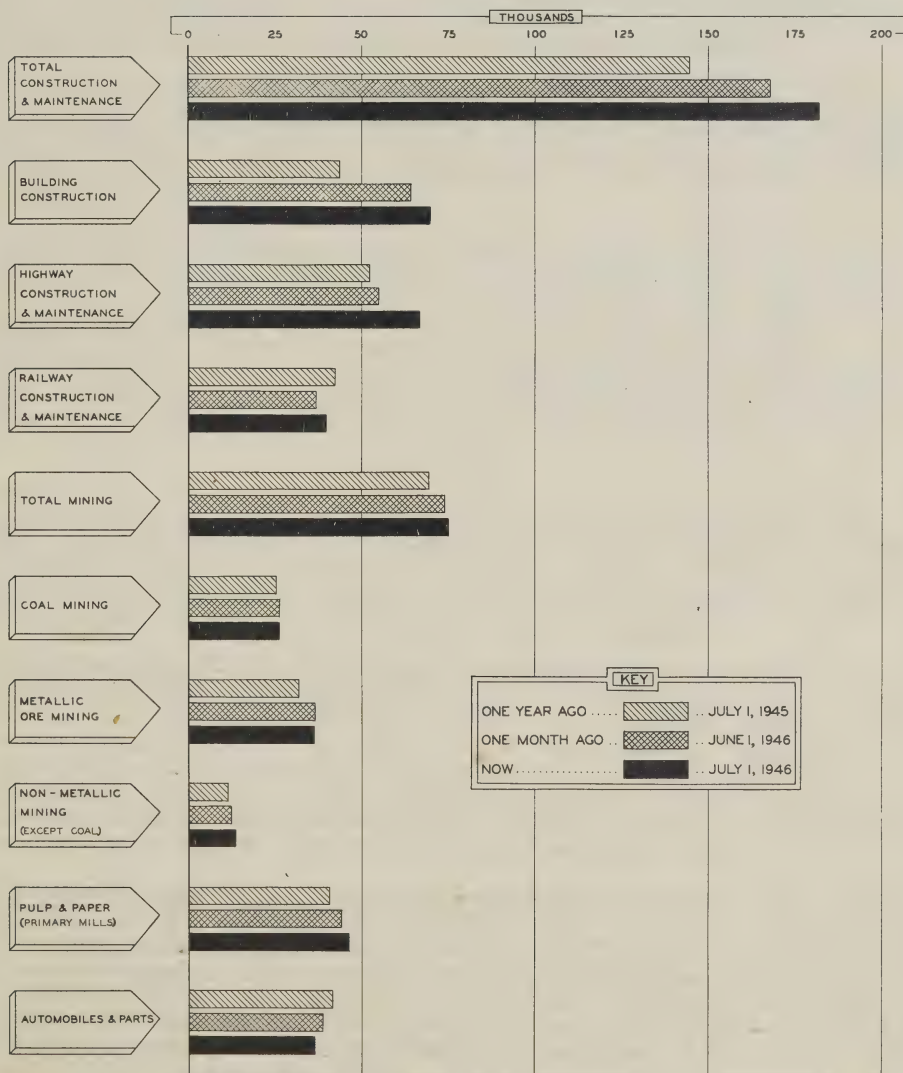
Table I—Canada Average of Wage Rates for Male Farm Help at May 15
1944, 1945, 1946

(Source: Agricultural Branch, D.B.S.)

Classification	Dollars Per Day			Dollars Per Month		
	1944	1945	1946	1944	1945	1946
With Board.....	2.72	3.04	3.25	61.88	66.88	71.36
Without Board.....	3.55	3.89	4.15	84.25	90.60	96.27

REPORTED EMPLOYMENT IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES

JULY 1, 1945 - JUNE 1, 1946 - JULY 1, 1946



The Construction Industry

Employment climbing—All reports indicate that employment in the construction industry continued to increase during the month of August. Conservative estimates now place the number of on-site workers in this industry at the quarter-million mark.¹ The official D.B.S. index of construction employment (based on June 1941 as 100) showed a rise of 29 points from March to July, and now stands at 101.8. In the immediate pre-war period, the seasonal high in construction employment was reached in the early fall, so a continuation of this upward movement can be expected until October.

To the end of May, work had been started on over 20,000 houses and 150 apartment blocks across Canada. Recently, increased pressure has been brought to bear to speed up the rate of residential building. This may result in the elimination of some of the material bottlenecks, but the 50,000 unit housing goal is not yet in sight.

Material supply situation deteriorating—The interplay of manpower shortages on the construction labour market continues, with material shortages in the dominant role. Statistics on material production show that shipments for the month of June were generally down from May, mainly due to strikes. With the exception of a few items, output of plumbing and heating equipment, electrical fixtures, lumber, paints and varnishes, and iron and steel products were all smaller in volume. Increases were registered in the production of cement and clay products, which includes brick, tile and sewer pipe, among other things.

While not so intense as material shortages, the lack of qualified tradesmen continues to be an obstacle to completion of many building projects. Unless material shortages prevent it, all competent men are now working. There were 5,000 skilled construction workers out of work at August 8. A large part of this group can be accounted for by normal turnover rate in the industry and complete utilization of the remainder is prevented by lack of materials.

Road construction—Road and bridge construction has almost doubled since 1939, since many of the prevailing shortages do not greatly affect this type of construction. An estimated \$165 million will be spent in Canada this year in this sector of the industry. Numerous new air routes will open up shortly entailing large airport construction and paving. There is less difficulty in supplying labour demand as a great majority of unskilled labour is employed on roads. D.B.S. figures show that as at July 1, 1946, 72,027 men were employed with no shortage of labour being felt throughout most districts.

Contracts awarded 95 per cent above 1945—Contracts awarded, which usually antedate the completed construction project by a 3 to 7 month period, were less in value during June than in either of the previous two months. The \$66 million figure for June brought the six month total to \$342.6 millions, 94.9 per cent above the figure for the same period in 1945. While a good indicator of the general trend of construction, when allowance is made for the time factor, these statistics have in the past been consistent underestimates of the value of work performed in the construction industry.

¹ This estimate is higher than the reported employment figure shown on the accompanying chart as the latter has only partial coverage of the industry.

This \$342 million total is divided as follows (in millions): residential-\$111.5; business-\$94.1; industrial-\$81.4; and engineering-\$55.4. Private spending, reflected mainly in increases in industrial contracts (up 181 per cent over 1945) and business contracts (up 135 per cent), has largely replaced the public expenditures which were such a feature of the 1939-45 period. However, government contracts for highways, bridges and similar projects, form the bulk of the engineering total (300 per cent above 1945). The amount of residential contracts awarded has been disappointing; only 18 per cent over the previous year.

Earnings and hours—Plasterers', carpenters', bricklayers' and plumbers' unions are expected to ask for at least an 8 per cent increase above the present level of wages. The hourly rates of these trades have increased approximately 30 per cent over the 1935-1939 level. This is generally below that of other industries, with the rate of increase showing a tendency to rise more slowly than in other lines of work. Should these increases be granted, building costs, which are now 50 per cent above 1939, will take another jump.

There has been slight change in per capita weekly earnings during the last two months. These stood at \$30.89 at June 1 as compared with \$30.84 at May 1, 1946. Hourly earnings remained stable at 82.2 cents at June 1, compared to 82.0 at May 1, 1946, and 81.1 at June 1, 1945. Skilled workers are being paid a considerably higher wage but this is offset by the large number of unskilled workers employed in this industry. Average weekly working hours showed a slight decrease in the building trades during the week ending June 1, 1946 when workers gave 37.4 hours of labour as compared with 38.7 at May 1, and 40.5 at June 1, 1945.

Apprenticeship training²—Some indication of the forthcoming supply of skilled labour in the construction industry can be gleaned from a study of the accompanying table. Those listed under the heading "C.V.T." (Canadian Vocational Training) are mainly veterans taking a six month course preparatory to starting on the third year of the four year apprenticeship period. Some in this category, however, are veterans who are already employed in the industry but are taking refresher courses. Under the "A.T." (Apprenticeship Training) column are included all the indentured apprentices in the Canadian construction industry in these occupations.

As can be seen, the numbers enrolled in the C.V.T. courses has dropped and the movement of C.V.T. graduates to apprenticeship has upped this total by some 1,300 odd in the four month period from March 31 to July 31 of this year. Bearing in mind that the 6,926 total is composed of trainees in all of the four and one-half year period necessary to obtain journeymen status, (though most of the apprentices are veterans in their third and fourth year), it is apparent that the potential skilled labour supply will fall short of the demand. The National Conference on the Construction Industry last February estimated the absorptive capacity of the industry at 5,600 apprentices per year. The two occupations with the smallest numbers enrolled, bricklaying and plastering, are those in which the greatest labour scarcity exists at present.

² For a more detailed discussion of this topic, see the "Canadian Labour Market," April, 1946.

Table II—Canadian Vocational Training and Apprenticeship Training in
The Building Trades as at March 31, 1946 and July 31, 1946

(Source: Vocational Training Branch, Department of Labour)

Trade	March 31, 1946			July 31, 1946		
	C.V.T.	A.T.	Total	C.V.T.	A.T.	Total
Carpentry.....	1,376	524	1,900	1,066	818	1,884
Bricklaying.....	366	124	490	475	97	572
Painting and Decorating.....	262	101	363	211	390	601
Plastering.....	101	46	147	72	95	167
Plumbing and Steamfitting.....	682	605	1,287	575	827	1,402
Sheet Metal.....	385	306	691	244	307	551
Electricians.....	1,182	725	1,907	959	790	1,749
TOTAL.....	4,354	2,431	6,785	3,602	3,324	6,926

Mining

Employment up 5,000 in July—Latest D.B.S. figures on reported employment in the mining industry show that at July 1, 75,000 workers were employed in the Canadian mining industry. In the 4 week period from July 4 to August 1, 10,335 new employees were taken on in the industry and 5,168 workers left, which indicates an employment increase of more than 5,000. Pre-war employment in the industry hovered around the 75,000 mark but during the peak year, 1941, the figure topped 85,000.

4,000 skilled men needed but skilled labour supply still relatively scarce—Reports from the mines and from local employment offices state that considerable difficulty is being experienced in obtaining skilled labour to work in the mines. Many miners who left during the war to join the armed forces are not returning to their old jobs. Other job seekers, especially those who worked in war plants during the war, are reluctant to accept this type of work. With the "easy" labour market now prevailing, less efficient workers are taken on, and the labour force is not yet up to the pre-war standards.

At August 8, there were 3,969 job openings in mining reported to the National Employment Service. Fifteen hundred of these vacancies were in coal mines and slightly fewer than that number were in gold mines. At the same date, 613 experienced miners were looking for work. Four hundred of these are registered as hard-rock miners and 150 as coal miners.

Gold mine revenue hit by Dollar Parity—The rate of expansion in the gold mining industry has been somewhat disappointing so far, and with the price of gold dropping from \$38.50 to \$35.00 per ounce with the revaluation of the Canadian dollar, a further obstacle to increased production faces the industry. Unless some form of tax relief is given by the Federal government, some of the marginal producers may be forced to shut down.

The slowness of experienced miners in returning to the mines and the necessity of doing extensive development work on new mines have delayed production. Output during the month of June was 234,383 fine ounces, a decrease of 2 per cent from May. Employment in May was 18,500, 4,000 more than it was

at the same time in 1945 when gold mines were still under restriction. Prospecting and diamond drilling, in eastern Quebec and the Yellowknife district especially, give promise of the opening of many new properties which may give the industry a shot in the arm.

On July 3, some 2,500 hard rock miners, mostly gold miners, went on strike in British Columbia when they failed to obtain their demands for a 29 cent-an-hour increase and a 40-hour week with union security. The strike had not been settled at the time of writing and had cut the value of mine output by an estimated million dollars a month.

Coal prospects not bright—The expected scarcity of coal in the coming winter is now an everyday topic of conversation and there is little in the present domestic situation which can be considered as encouraging. Canada came through 1945 with low reserves; imports from the United States have been hit by the strikes there; and domestic production at the end of June was six million tons below 1945 for the same period. Output in the Maritimes has dropped from 1900 to 1300 tons "per day", "per man".

The need for skilled men has been stressed in the mining areas, but as yet coal mine operators have not obtained all the miners they could use. At August 8, employment offices reported a demand for 1,488 miners, with this demand remaining largely unfilled. The Dominion Coal Company has started mining classes at Glace Bay and New Waterford mines in an effort to train some men for first class miner's papers.

Ex-servicemen—Reinstatement of ex-servicemen is now almost complete. In most instances, these types have been absorbed without replacement of those taken on during the war. Several mines which are now operating below their maximum employment level are not taking on new men but are allowing reinstatements to fill up this gap gradually. As noted, many former miners are not returning to their old jobs after being discharged.

Pulp and Paper Industry

Employment up slightly—Since 1939, employment in primary pulp and paper mills has been steadily on the upgrade and with the present slight seasonal increase has reached an all-time peak. At July 1, 1946, reported employment reached the 46,000 mark, 50 per cent above its level at the same period in 1939. This was a gain of 3.5 per cent during the month of June.

Three thousand more workers needed—At August 8, there were 3,000 job openings in Canada in the pulp and paper products industry according to the National Employment Service. This figure includes vacancies in the secondary paper products factories and printing establishments, with which this report is not concerned. The number of unfilled vacancies in this industry doubled during the two week period beginning July 25. Sixteen hundred of these requests, or about 55 per cent, were for women workers, indicating that most of the vacancies were in the secondary, rather than the primary mills which employ predominantly male help.

Newsprint production 30 per cent above 1945—In the first seven months of 1946, Canadian newsprint production has totalled 2.4 million tons, 30 per cent more than the 1945 production for the same period. So far this year, the mills have been operating at better than 90 per cent capacity (70-80 per cent from 1939-45) with dependency on pulpwood cut as far back as last fall the chief limiting factor. With more men available for woods operations this year, this

rate of production should be maintained. Demand continues to be virtually unlimited, with no sign of impending market deterioration apparent.

Price increase follows Dollar Parity—The raising of the Canadian dollar to parity with that of the United States took an almost straight ten per cent out from the industry's revenue as approximately 90 per cent of its production is exported to that country. Consequently, price increases were made by all major operators to offset this loss. The existing price of newsprint, \$70 per ton at Montreal, may be further increased to cope with higher wage and material costs. After World War I, price boosts (newsprint went up to \$112 per ton), led to over-expansion in the industry with supply far out-running demand. The resulting price war proved disastrous for many companies.

Wages and hours—At July 1, 1946 the average pulp mill worker was earning \$41.28 per week. This sum was \$2.24 more than the June 1, 1946 figure. In the last five years, the level of per capita weekly earnings in the pulp and paper industry has risen 30 per cent. The actual work week in the industry, 49.0 hours, was longer than that of any other industry for which comparable statistics are available.

By an agreement signed May 29, between four B.C. pulp and paper companies and the International Brotherhood of Papermakers and the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers, the mill workers receive 15 cents per hour increase and will work a 44-hour standard week. Previously, eastern Canada labourers received a 10 cent an hour wage boost.

Contraction in employment forecast—Unlike its associated industry, logging, employment in primary pulp and paper mills is not subject to extreme seasonal fluctuations. Reports from 37 pulp and paper establishments, employing 27,000 workers, show that these employers expect their labour needs to be quite moderate in the early fall—possibly 200 men, most of whom would be handling the logs now coming in. After October 1, a drop in employment of about 7 per cent was predicted. However, this tendency could be offset by the opening of new plants, or expansion in plants not covered in this survey.

The Services Industry

One of the outstanding changes in the composition of the Canadian labour force over the long-term period has been the increasing importance of the services industry. At the present time, it is estimated that over three-quarters of a million people are directly engaged in work which comes under this classification, including such varied lines of activity as recreation, domestic and personal service, and public and professional services. It is in this industry that there is the greatest shortage of labour at present, as many of the jobs are poorly paid and unattractive.

Employment now at summer peak—During the summer, with the tourist trade as the major impetus, employment in the services industry has been spiralling upwards. At June 1, a sample survey conducted by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics estimated employment in the industry at 772,000, including employers and "own-accounts." In the two month period from that time until August 1, National Employment Service records show that 114,996 persons started work in the industry and 40,853 workers left. This 70,000 excess of placements over separations brings the total number of people engaged in the industry to the 850,000 mark.

Tourist trade—Last year, the two and a half million American tourists who visited this country left \$164 millions behind them. This year, many times that number of tourists have crossed the border and the revenue will be proportionately larger.

This influx, which has benefited all parts of Canada, has had a buoyant effect on all parts of the economy. Not only have the hotels and tourist centres benefited, but also bus and railway lines, service stations and retail stores have received a big lift in business.

The great majority of jobs created by the tourist trade come under the services industry. Many of these openings were filled by local applicants seeking a little extra money; others were filled by students and unemployed interested only in temporary work. But many of the jobs were filled by people who would otherwise have been working in some other section of the industry, such as cooks and waitresses. These will be available for other jobs at the end of the season and their numbers should more than compensate for the heavy withdrawals of students from all parts of the services industry.

Shortage of women workers acute—At August 8, there were 21,661 unfilled vacancies in the services industry, divided as follows: public-3,089; domestic-3,201; personal-9,386; custom and repair-2,020; other service-4,015. Over seventy per cent of the orders on hand in employment offices were for women workers, who constitute well over fifty per cent of the total employment. The tourist trade has created a big demand for waitresses and kitchen help. Stenographers and typists are also badly needed with few qualified applicants. The extreme shortage of domestic help continues with little prospect of the need being filled as few women are willing to accept this type of employment. For male workers, the largest number of job opportunities are in automobile service.

Labour supply a permanent problem—As noted, many of the job vacancies in this industry are not very attractive. During the last few months, National Employment Service has invariably had upwards of twenty thousand jobs listed, with relatively few takers. Most applicants prefer the better hours and more pleasant working conditions found in sales and office work to the general run of service jobs, even though the latter may be better paid.

Because of this, and because many of the employees are women and temporary workers, the rate of turnover in this industry is higher than any other, with the possible exception of logging. However, as the industry uses a high proportion of unskilled workers who can be put to work immediately, it can adapt itself to high labour turnover. In times of labour shortage, casual labourers and other marginal groups are employed. When jobs are more scarce, the industry adjusts itself upward to a preferred type of labour. This tendency is just beginning to be felt in the industry now. But in the long run, a stable work force cannot be expected until wages and working conditions are improved.

The Automotive Industry

Steel strike forces shutdown—During the month of August, shortage of steel forced a partial shutdown in the plants of two of the "Big Three" automobile manufacturers, Ford and General Motors. As the other major producer, Chrysler, continues to be strikebound in both its Windsor and Chatham plants, the flow of finished cars from the assembly line has been reduced to a mere

trickle. Uncertain delivery from supplier plants both here and in the United States, many of which are troubled by strikes, has further delayed production.

Up to June, however, automobile production had been steadily climbing. In the first five months of this year, 64,000 vehicles of all types were turned out. This total was about equally divided between commercial types (trucks, buses, chassis and military vehicles) and passenger cars.

Employment dropped 3,000 during June—Official statistics on the automobile and parts industry show that reported employment at July 1 was 36,000, or 3,000 less than the June 1 figure. This does not reflect the dislocation caused by the steel strike, as the retardation resulting from this source was not felt until later. Normally, this decline would be in accord with the long-term seasonal pattern which calls for a decrease after the May peak, but the unusual conditions now prevailing preclude any possibility of normal behaviour in employment fluctuations.

Automotive employment has never regained its wartime peak of 45,000 despite the fact that labour supply has been no problem here, as it has been, in such industries as logging or mining. Following a lay-off of 15,000 in the reconversion period, employment increased steadily and was over the 39,000 mark when this June setback occurred.

Employers forecast slight employment increases—Barring the continuation of strikes, reports from selected plants in the automotive industry estimate a rise in employment of 2.5 per cent from July until the end of the year. As the outlook for consumer durable goods appears bright for the next two to three years, this relative stability will probably be replaced by a gradual upward trend in 1947. Expansion of the industry is indicated in the plans of several American companies, among which Reo, Studebaker and White Trucks are prominent, to open new plants here.

Women in the automotive industry—Most of the production jobs in this industry, such as machine operators, assemblers or electricians, require either physical strength or mechanical ability and cannot satisfactorily be filled by women. Right now, women constitute 9.4 per cent of the total labour force, with less than one-third of these being production workers. In April, 1945, when the labour shortage was at its worst, women formed 14.2 per cent of the total employed. Comments from employers indicate that while women are not being laid off, male workers are being taken on to replace those who leave.

Chrysler strike continues—The strike in the Chrysler plants at Windsor and Chatham which began on June 18 is still in progress. The principal demands of the striking workers, as expressed through the U.A.W. (C.I.O.-C.C.L) are for 25 cent-an-hour wage boost, two weeks vacation with pay, and the establishment of a 40-hour week. The Company is willing to institute the "Rand" formula and to grant two weeks vacation with pay to employees with over five years service, but has refused to give a wage increase of more than six cents per hour. The union considers this offer unsatisfactory and is holding out for a more generous settlement.

Earnings and hours—Both per capita weekly earnings and the number of hours worked per week are now well below the wartime peak. At July 1, the average worker earned \$38.06, as compared with \$44.47 earned in February 1, 1945,

the high point during the war years. Average hours per week at June 1 were 37.5 as compared to their May 1945 peak 45.2 hours. Strikes and material shortages were the major reasons for these declines.

Industrial relations in the automotive industry--One of the two major issues in labour-management relations in the automotive industry at the present time is the unwillingness of the manufacturers to grant the form of union security which the U.A.W. (C.I.O.-C.C.L.) seeks to achieve. The union demands for grievance procedures and seniority systems have always posed especially vexatious problems in this industry where close timing is essential if the integrated production process is to run smoothly and efficiently. The adjustment of the speed of operations via the grievance procedure can lead to dislocation of the production system which would threaten the whole organization of the plant. There is the additional difficulty that the signing of union contracts covering wage rates introduces another element of rigidity in an industry where ability to adjust labour costs when market conditions change has been one of the chief methods of maintaining profit levels.

At this particular period, the union is especially concerned with achieving some form of security because of the decrease in employment due to post-war cut-backs and the uncertainty as to future employment levels. But more than this, the union is faced with the difficulty of maintaining its strength in a number of large plants, some of which employ several thousand workers. Without some precise agreement as to maintenance of membership, the union must be continually reorganizing the plant. This incessant activity, resulting from the union's insecure position, is not conducive to harmonious labour-management relations.

Thus, the union security demand arises from the union's attempts to maintain its position in the industry. The employers are reluctant to grant it because to them it represents a more complete acceptance of unionism than they may be willing to consider.

The other issue which is now playing an important role in industrial disputes in the automobile industry is the demand for wage-rate increases. This reflects the union's determination to maintain war-time levels of "take-home" pay in the face of shorter working hours and rising living costs. This demand is also a part of the U.A.W. long term policy of achieving shorter working hours while maintaining or increasing earnings.

It appears, therefore, until the issue of union security is settled, industrial relations in the automotive industry are likely to be disturbed. The "Rand" formula is a milestone on the way to stable relations, rather than a complete solution of the problem.

PART III

AREA ANALYSIS

Section 1:- REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following regional analysis deals with the current labour demand-supply situation in each of the five regions, Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies and Pacific. A special study of the economic background, war-time development and post-war problems of one region is also presented each month. In this issue, a study of the Ontario region forms the third of the series.

Table I—Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants at August 29, By Region

(Source: Advance Report on Labour Demand and Supply, Research & Statistics Br.)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies				Unplaced Applicants			
	Male	Female	Total	%	Male	Female	Total	%
Maritimes.....	4,300	2,400	6,700	5.7	18,900	2,400	21,300	14.7
Quebec.....	18,900	16,500	35,400	30.2	27,500	8,600	36,100	25.0
Ontario.....	22,900	18,300	41,200	35.2	35,900	11,300	47,200	32.6
Prairies.....	16,700	5,800	22,500	19.2	14,400	5,100	19,500	13.5
Pacific.....	8,000	3,300	11,300	9.7	17,100	3,400	20,500	14.2
Canada.....	70,800	46,300	117,100	100.0	113,800	30,800	144,600	100.0

Maritime Region

Strike impact severe—The steel strike is showing serious results in manufacturing in the Maritimes, adding to the existing burden of chronic unemployment. Reports from all industrial centres disclose fast dwindling stocks, lay-offs or imminent lay-offs, and in some cases, closure of plants. Continued lack of material is seriously affecting employment in the construction industry, and lay-offs are general. Although brick and tile are available to high priority projects, the scarcity of skilled bricklayers has been delaying work. Due to the general shortage of materials, the local demand for lumber has diminished, but heavy overseas shipments have taken up the surplus. Demand for woods labour remains high and orders for mill workers will increase as new sawmills open shortly. Prospective applicants for apple picking and processing in the Annapolis Valley have been interviewed, and sufficient labour should be available.

Quebec Region x

Widespread effects of industrial tie-up—A decline in industrial activity, the effect of labour disturbances over the last few months, characterized the Quebec economy during August. Nevertheless, the number of unplaced applicants has decreased. General farm labour demand has met with fair success, but good experienced labour is still very difficult to find. Mining in northern Quebec has felt the repercussions of the downward movement in the price of gold; approximately fifty diamond drill operations have been suspended. Some of the men working on prospecting operations may be available temporarily to the hard-pressed producing mines. Strikes, and lay-offs due to the effects of strikes, have adversely affected many manufacturing industries, as in the rest of Canada. Labour agreements have been signed in transportation and secondary steel. Although unplaced applicants among veterans decreased during the month, placements are difficult to make because of the prevailing labour disturbances, critical material and housing shortages.

Ontario Region x

The Ontario region typifies the national economy to a greater extent than does any other region. Not only the biggest, but outstandingly the wealthiest, in 1943 it contained 33 per cent of the entire population and accounted for 42 per cent of national salaries, wages and supplementary labour income.

Among its advantages are rich and diversified resources, a strategic geographical position both in the national economy and in relation to American industry, and cheap transportation facilities such as the Great Lakes, and a maze of highways and railways. Although highly industrialized, it is based on a solid agricultural foundation, diversified, self-sufficient and prosperous, which forms an important stabilizing factor in the economy.

Industrial expansion since World War I—Tremendous growth has occurred in Ontario since World War I. Before then, the industries of the province depended largely upon the exporting regions, particularly the prairies, as markets for its manufactured goods and services. Foreign markets were of minor importance.

In the period following the war, the development of electricity, the gasoline engine, the automobile, and rising demand for newer industrial metals, such as nickel and copper, stimulated expansion. Improvements in metallurgical processes, cheap hydro-electric power, and favourable markets for wood-pulp, paper, and non-ferrous metals led to rapid exploitation of the northern areas. Large exporting industries and new communities dependent upon them, resulted.

The automobile had an important effect on Ontario's prosperity. It gave rise to new manufacturing and service industries, heavy expenditure on roads and streets, and was the principal factor in the thriving American tourist trade.

The economic structure of Ontario changed markedly with these new developments. It lessened the dependence on the other regions as markets for goods, and was the basis for heavy capital expenditures which added greatly to the prosperity of the province. Investment in electric stations, mines and factories, replaced former activity connected with the railway and building boom of western Canada.

x Major source of background data - Report of the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations; 1940.

Manufacturing the leading industry—Manufacturing continued to be the predominant industry, its concentration in the central region resulted in great corporate and often monopolistic industries, which in turn brought about further concentration. Ontario specialized in the rapidly growing, mechanized industries producing durable consumer goods and machinery. Important export markets were built up for some of these - automobiles, farm implements, rubber products - on the basis of Empire preference.

Geographical advantage—Proximity to the United States industrial region has been a great advantage. The basic industrial raw materials of coal and iron, in which Ontario is deficient, are available cheaply, hence Ontario has most of Canada's metal-working industries. New techniques and mass production economies have been introduced. Branch plants for Empire export markets were encouraged. The United States also provided a flourishing tourist trade, and formed an important source of capital.

The urban population rose from 58 to 61 per cent from 1921 to 1931, with the increasing concentration of manufacturing and services. Toronto, the principal urban area, increased in population by 33 per cent. Montreal and Toronto are the metropolitan centres for the entire Canadian economy; their economies differ in that Montreal is influenced by the transcontinental economy and national policies, while Toronto is more closely associated with the rapid exploitation of the Pre-Cambrian shield.

Effects of the war—Wartime industrial expansion occurred on a large scale. At the beginning of the war there were 479,224 workers in recorded employment in Ontario. Most of the war-time employment increase had occurred by December 1942 when a level of 776,162 had been reached, a 62 per cent gain over September 1939. Peak employment of 777,811 was attained in December 1943, an increase of 63 per cent over the pre-war level. Ontario alone supported almost half of total war manufacturing employment in Canada.

The post-war decline was not so severe as in other regions. Ontario had been highly industrialized before the war, thus war industries were able to reconvert to well established peace-time production during the immediate post-war period. The problem of large-scale reconversion, however, created great shortages of parts, equipment and raw material supplies, for which firms were highly dependent on American industry, where strikes were then curtailing production.

The post-war low in activity took place in October 1945, when workers employed totalled 699,453. This represented a decline from the war-time peak of 9.9 per cent, as compared with the national decline of 11.5 per cent and with a 16.0 per cent drop in Quebec.

The trend of employment has been steadily upward since then. At June, 1946, there were 740,229 wage-earners reported. Thus Ontario has been more successful in maintaining her war-time employment gains than any other region during the transition to peace-time conditions.

Upward employment trend hindered by strikes—Once the current strike epidemic has subsided, employment expansion will undoubtedly accelerate. Even now, the region contains a greater proportion of total unfilled vacancies than of total unplaced applicants - approximately 35 per cent to 28 per cent at July 25. A high level of employment has already been achieved. At the present time

unemployment amounts to only 3 per cent of the labour force, near the frictional minimum.

It is quite possible, however, that the currently extensive labour unrest, and particularly the steel strike, will drastically alter this favourable situation. The stultifying effects on the Ontario economy of strikes in such key industries as steel, rubber, electrical apparatus, and non-ferrous metals, have already become apparent. Their ultimate extent depends upon the length and severity of these strikes.

Unemployment climbs slightly as strikes continue—Unemployment increased during August as a result of the widespread strikes and accompanying lay-offs. Disputes in the steel, automobile, electrical, rubber and chemical industries remain unsettled, and are holding up production in associated industries. However, in firms where the supply situation is steady, demand for heavy labour continues, and men are being recruited in the surplus centres of eastern Ontario for central and western Ontario plants. Grain harvesting has largely been completed and applications for work on prairie harvest fields are numerous. To date, 1,000 workers have been sent to the prairies and immediate needs are filled. Lumber operators are planning a heavy cutting program for the coming year; orders in clearance total about 2,400 for bushmen and 600 for pulpcutters, but few men will apply for work until the fly season is over. Construction activity will slacken considerably if the material situation does not improve but at present skilled workers are in heavy demand and applicants scarce.

Prairie Region

Seasonal upswing—Seasonal expansion has caused a marked decline in unemployment. Harvest requirements have increased sharply but no shortage of workers has yet developed. Transfers of local workers and eastern harvesters have provided ample labour for current farm needs, which have been light in some areas because of wet weather. The logging industry is at a low level of activity. Demand for bush workers is very heavy but few men will be available until harvesting is over. Skilled and semi-skilled miners are still required in Atikokan iron mines. The Flin Flon area reports a slump in precious metals exploration work because of financial limitations. Coal miners are needed in almost all Alberta coal fields. Employment in meatpacking plants is on the upswing. The supply of workers is sufficient, although physical specifications are high. Glass shortages still hamper sash and door production. The Fort William bus industry has temporarily released 250 workers because of supply shortages. The construction situation varies throughout the region, workers are required at Winnipeg, Regina and Port Arthur, but the severe scarcity of materials is holding up work in other areas.

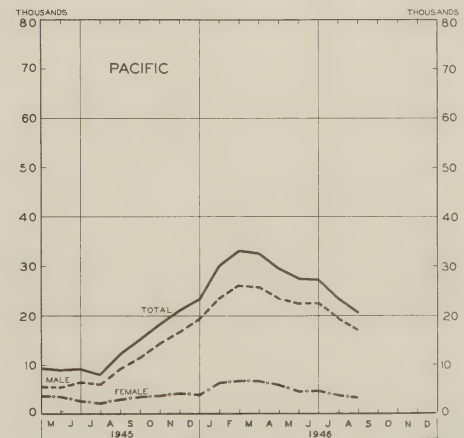
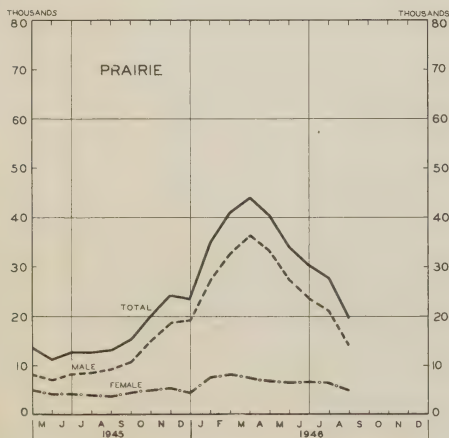
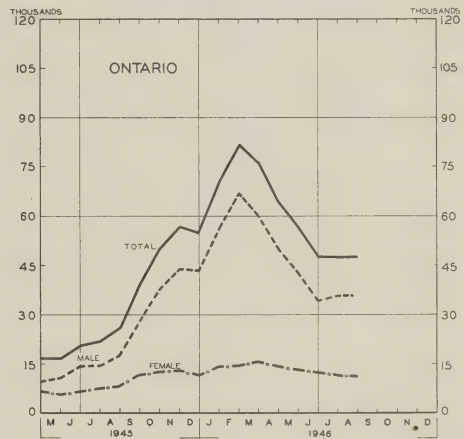
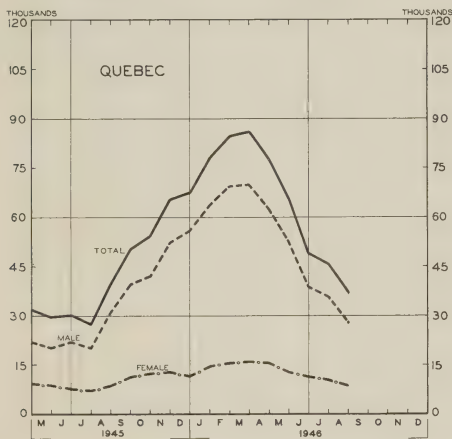
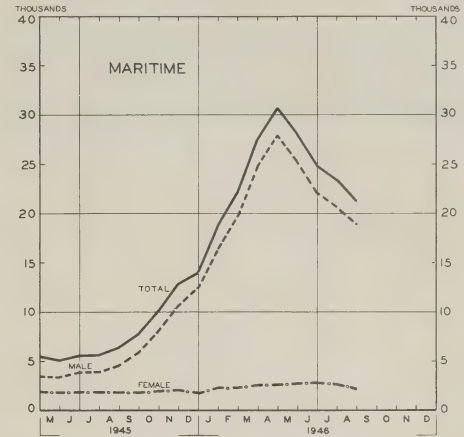
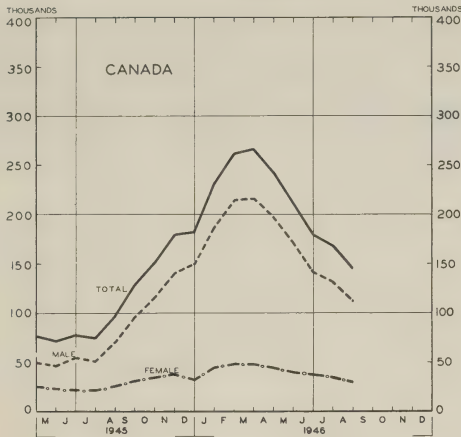
Pacific Region

Favourable outlook but material shortages—The yearly peak of employment has probably been reached this month since some seasonal operations will close shortly. However, the general economic picture is encouraging, although greater progress is blocked by the growing shortage of materials. The farm labour situation is good. Demand for single dairy farm hands continues, as a lack of housing prevents the hiring of married men. There is no shortage of unskilled applicants either for logging or sawmill work but there is a great scarcity of skilled men. Higher wage rates make the industry more attractive than heretofore, and it is noticeable that miners are now drifting to the woods.

REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT IN CANADA

AS MEASURED BY THE NUMBER OF
UNPLACED APPLICANTS

REPORTING TO THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



Construction in the region is on the upward trend despite material shortages. First class carpenters are very hard to find, and bricklayers, plasterers and lathers are almost as difficult to obtain. However, if building materials do not become available within a short period, a considerable number of tradesmen and labourers will be forced back into the labour market.

Section 2:- A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

A Key To The Area Tables

In this issue of the "Canadian Labour Market" we have extended the statistical tables, giving fuller data on the labour market in the forty-one areas which have hitherto been the subject of current analysis. Through the use of comparable figures for previous periods, we are also able to throw some light on the trend of labour demand and supply in the area.

We shall continue to classify the labour market areas according to the seriousness of unemployment, using, as a means of classification, the ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed. This, as we have stated previously, is a crude measure evaluating short-term relative levels of unemployment.

The total labour force figure, including, as it does, wage and salary workers, employers, self-employed, and unpaid family workers, would be preferable as a ratio base to wage and salary workers employed. It would give a truer statement of the movement from employed status to unemployed status without reflecting movements not resulting in unemployment (e.g. a salary or a wage worker becoming self-employed). However, until labour force figures are available, the ratio base will be an estimate of the number of wage and salary workers employed in the area.

Unplaced applicants are workers who are seeking jobs through registration with the employment service. The figure of unplaced applicants will underestimate the number unemployed by the number of workers who seek work independently of the employment service. However, since it is probable that the unemployed will register with the local employment office when jobs are difficult to find, and will find work on their own initiative, to a certain extent, without registering, when jobs are plentiful, the unemployment ratio may understate unemployment in good times, while giving a fairly accurate picture in bad times, especially in work covered by unemployment insurance.

After we have reached a measure of the unemployment in an area we must have some idea as to the meaning of the measure. In a dynamic economy, at any one moment, there will always be some workers who are not employed. Some will be changing jobs, some will have just left school and not yet found a place in the labour force, some in seasonal occupations, will work only part of the year. We can classify levels of unemployment by a comparison with past levels, and designate the labour situation in the different areas by the group rating under which they come, as follows:

Group I - Areas in which over 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties".

Group II- Areas in which between 150 and 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group, has been characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III - Areas in which 50 to 150 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV - Areas in which under 50 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Slight, that is, in general it is that which would exist under conditions of full employment according to the experience of the years 1943 and 1944.

On the other hand, we may desire more information than whether unemployment in an area is acute, serious, moderate, or slight. The area tables present additional material relevant to the current labour demand and supply picture.

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Total jobs reported during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but will, in comparison with figures for previous periods, indicate the trend of labour demand.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer.

"Unplaced applicants", at any one date, includes workers who have been referred to jobs but are not yet hired and workers who have not been referred to any job. As we said above, the figure will understate the number of unemployed by the number of workers who seek work independently of the employment service. It will, in comparison with figures for previous periods, indicate the trend of labour supply.

"Claimants" are those among the unplaced applicants who are applying for unemployment insurance benefits. The group, "non-claimants", those not claiming benefits, includes workers ordinarily employed in uninsurable occupations, workers who have made insufficient contribution to the fund, workers who have exhausted their benefits, and workers who have left their jobs without just cause.

A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT AUGUST 29, 1946

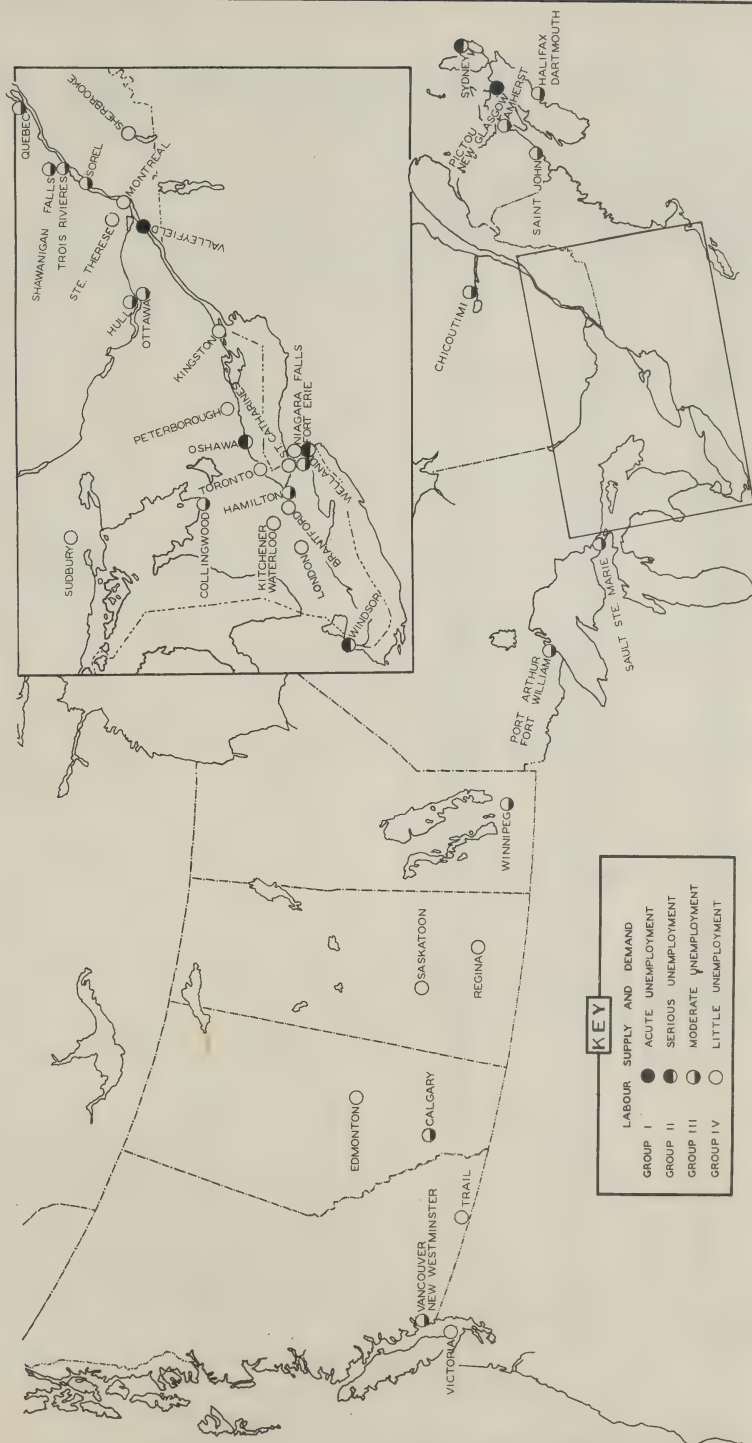


Table I--Index to Areas Analyzed in this Section with Comparable Ratings for Two Selected Previous Dates

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		June 27, 1946	July 25, 1946	Aug. 29, 1946
80	Valleyfield.....	I	I	I
73	New Glasgow & Pictou.....	I	I	I
87	Oshawa.....	II	III	II
73	Sydney (a).....	II	II	II
83	Fort Erie.....	II	II	II
91	Windsor.....	III	II	II
81	Collingwood.....	II	II	III
75	Hull.....	III	III	III
77	Quebec (b).....	II	III	III
71	Amherst.....	II	III	III
97	Vancouver (c).....	III	III	III
73	Saint John.....	III	III	III
83	Fort William & Port Arthur.....	III	III	III
79	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
77	Shawinigan Falls.....	III	III	III
95	Welland.....	III	III	III
79	Sorel.....	III	III	III
71	Halifax.....	III	III	III
83	Hamilton.....	III	III	III
89	Sault Ste. Marie.....	IV	III	III
87	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
75	Chicoutimi.....	III	III	III
91	Winnipeg.....	III	III	III
93	Calgary (d).....	III	III	III
89	St. Catharines.....	III	III	IV
97	Victoria.....	III	IV	IV
79	Ste. Therese.....	III	IV	IV
95	Sudbury.....	III	IV	IV
97	Trail.....	III	IV	IV
93	Edmonton.....	IV	IV	IV
85	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
75	Montreal (e).....	IV	IV	IV
95	Toronto (f).....	IV	IV	IV
93	Saskatoon.....	IV	IV	IV
85	London.....	IV	IV	IV
87	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV
91	Regina.....	IV	IV	IV
81	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
89	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
77	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
85	Kitchener - Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV

(a) Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.

(b) Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

(c) Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

(d) Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

(e) Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Point-aux-Trembles, St. Paul l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

(f) Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

Item	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed)	51	56	27	101	124	58	70	65	11
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	109,124	120,922	162,657	83	73	91	1,530	1,718	3,592
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	144,740	183,112	-	158	286	-	1,971	2,579
3. Total jobs reported during month	-	265,662	345,769	-	231	377	-	3,689	6,171
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	71,935	110,008	-	107	240	-	901	1,376
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	108,881	52,779	-	198	78	-	1,370	831
6. Unfilled vacs. end of month	117,263	109,124	161,115	33	83	110	1,429	1,530	3,521
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	160,262	179,281	78,768	508	671	284	2,793	2,519	553
% female	21.5	21.1	29.6	23.2	26.2	44.7	16.3	16.0	25.0
% veterans	34.2	34.1	-	55.9	42.2	-	37.0	41.2	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more ...	23.6	24.9	-	52.6	36.5	-	15.2	24.9	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.	155,592	164,250	47,050	503	649	277	2,793	2,351	203
Claimants	102,132	113,456	-	446	601	-	1,172	1,003	-
% under 20 years	6.5	6.2	-	7.6	6.2	-	12.3	13.0	-
% 20 - 45	61.6	62.9	-	65.0	73.5	-	55.5	59.4	-
% 45 - 60	19.3	19.0	-	22.2	15.6	-	19.2	16.2	-
% over 60	12.6	11.9	-	5.2	4.7	-	13.0	11.4	-
Non-claimants	53,460	50,794	-	57	48	-	1,621	1,348	-
% under 20 years	25.2	24.8	-	31.6	47.9	-	33.4	31.9	-
% 20 - 45	59.9	60.1	-	56.1	39.6	-	56.1	57.8	-
% 45 - 60	11.4	11.6	-	12.3	8.3	-	8.7	8.0	-
% over 60	3.5	3.5	-	0.0	4.2	-	1.8	2.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	143,209	172,058	-	246	412	-	2,329	1,725
3. Total workers available in month	-	322,490	250,826	-	917	696	-	4,848	2,278
% referred	-	33.9	58.7	-	14.5	47.0	-	35.3	89.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	144,590	160,262	76,012	414	508	391	2,986	2,793	539
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month ..	2,840	2,815	2,778	4,100	3,900	7,300	42,700	42,400	48,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ..	-	32.24	32.32	-	-	-	-	29.61	30.39
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	33,107	19,939	-	11,200	4,350	-	331,217	151,988

Note: Figures for Canada re wage and salary workers and building permits are in thousands.

Introduction

The individual studies of forty-one selected local areas have been resumed. As before, they present aspects of the current situation which are not reflected in the statistical material.

Amherst

Total unplaced applicants declined approximately 38 per cent from June 27 to August 29. The decline in the number of applicants is due mostly to increased construction activity involving housing construction and public utilities. Despite the growing shortage of nails and reinforcing steel, most contractors feel that sufficient materials will be available for the completion of most projects. Haying is finished in this area but it is expected that 150 men will be recruited for apple picking in Annapolis Valley. Due to the recent forest fires, and lack of rain, the logging industry is now at a standstill, but it is expected that operations will soon be resumed. Increased employment in manufacturing is very unlikely because of material shortages; the only notable exception is the local textile mill which is again in operation at full employment. Most male applicants are unskilled workers, truck drivers, metalworkers, and "white collar" workers. The majority of female applicants are clerical workers, textiles workers, and unskilled workers.

Halifax

Unplaced applicants increased about 7 per cent and vacancies decreased about 26 per cent from June 27, to August 29. The increase in number of unplaced applicants is due chiefly to the curtailment of manufacturing activity because of material shortages. Skilled help is still badly needed in local textile plants. Port activity is considerably reduced, and construction projects, housing and public works are being retarded by shortages of materials, particularly such commodities as nails and sewer pipes. A small lay-off took place in local shipyards. A considerable number of the men who registered for employment during the summer were from outside the Halifax area. A pool of 400 men has been built up for apple picking in the Annapolis Valley. This will help to alleviate unemployment for many men until logging gets underway. Most idle men are unskilled workers, truck drivers, metalworkers, construction workers, and "white collar" workers. Demand for female workers in virtually all categories is still very high with few applicants available. Accommodation of some sort can be obtained although the present housing situation is serious.

Item	New Glasgow & Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed)	332	328	109	213	216	47	86	91	22
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	112	63	242	410	365	846	788	913	1,093
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	742	1,047	-	849	1,184	-	1,039	1,539
3. Total jobs reported during month	-	805	1,289	-	1,234	2,030	-	1,952	2,632
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	658	893	-	758	1,155	-	678	1,172
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	126	32	-	207	50	-	911	174
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	60	112	268	402	410	766	728	788	1,115
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	2,525	2,576	837	4,285	4,019	1,051	2,339	2,261	417
% female	8.2	9.0	34.3	11.2	12.8	39.1	6.9	5.5	24.9
% veterans	46.5	56.1	-	56.8	57.6	-	51.8	55.7	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more ..	42.9	46.5	-	50.9	50.5	-	38.6	45.3	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	2,360	2,572	749	4,213	3,980	931	2,163	2,185	211
Claimants	2,058	2,190	-	3,631	3,359	-	1,372	1,350	-
% under 20 years	6.1	6.9	-	10.6	10.0	-	7.9	8.7	-
% 20 - 45	73.8	73.4	-	76.5	78.5	-	62.9	63.4	-
% 45 - 60	12.4	12.4	-	8.9	7.4	-	19.0	14.4	-
% over 60	7.7	7.3	-	4.0	4.1	-	10.2	13.5	-
Non-claimants	302	382	-	582	621	-	791	835	-
% under 20 years	14.9	14.4	-	39.0	39.8	-	24.8	19.5	-
% 20 - 45	73.8	76.7	-	55.2	55.9	-	65.4	70.8	-
% 45 - 60	7.3	5.8	-	4.3	3.5	-	8.2	5.7	-
% over 60	4.0	3.1	-	1.5	0.8	-	1.6	4.0	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	1,211	1,440	-	1,517	1,648	-	1,608	1,681
3. Total workers available in month	-	3,787	2,277	-	5,536	2,699	-	3,869	2,098
% referred	-	19.9	49.8	-	15.4	51.1	-	26.5	70.1
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	2,552	2,525	1,016	4,211	4,285	920	2,206	2,339	550
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	7,700	7,600	10,900	15,800	19,700	19,500	25,600	25,000	25,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.51	29.99
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62,105	43,235

New Glasgow - Pictou

At the end of August total unplaced applicants remained practically the same as at June 27, and demand is still extremely light. The steel strike has seriously affected most of the manufacturing plants in this area. In the last several weeks some 600 men have been laid off, not taking into account previous lay-offs in rolling stock manufacturing involving approximately 700 men. Building construction is progressing fairly well being upheld by supplies on hand, but shortages of such commodities as nails are already being felt. The large demand for sawmill workers and loggers is gradually being met. Employment in coal mines remains stable. There were only 60 vacancies (30 for loggers) for 2,342 men in New Glasgow at August 29; these men are mostly unskilled workers, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, metalworkers, construction workers, and "white collar" workers. Female demand is very light except for service workers.

Sydney

Unplaced applicants have increased slightly since June 27. The rise is contra-seasonal and caused by effects of the strike in the Sydney Steel Plant, and other material shortages. Many of the strikers are locating casual work. The local construction industry is held back by lack of cement and nails. If cement were available it is estimated that work could be provided for from 500 to 1,000 men on Cape Breton Island. The local office expects to send 1,000 persons to the Annapolis Valley from Cape Breton for fruit picking. There is still a demand for 151 first class miners (only veterans), and coal production is very low. The demand for materials for private dwellings has never been greater than at the present time.

Saint John

The slight increase in unplaced applicants since June 27 is due to material shortages, and a very low level of port activity. Nail and wire producers have closed down because of lack of supplies. The closing of the seamen's manning pool has added 175 seamen to the total unemployed. One large baking establishment has closed down because of the lack of shortening. Approximately 800 general labourers are unemployed because of the general shortage of supplies. The building program is being held back by a lack of nails and a shortage of bricklayers and masons. Most male unplaced applicants are unskilled workers, truck drivers, metalworkers and "white collar" workers. Demand for female labour is fairly strong and concentrated in the service groups. Housing accommodations are very scarce in this area thus blocking an influx of skilled men and labourers.

Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed)	52	56	121	134	119	48	28	33	25
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vac., first of month	1,200	1,259	220	164	554	398	19,371	22,948	36,135
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	711	1,336	-	302	691	-	10,038	26,890
3. Total jobs reported during month	-	1,970	1,556	-	856	1,089	-	32,986	63,025
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	165	792	-	161	521	-	2,979	10,554
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	830	98	-	626	106	-	18,328	6,150
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	816	1,200	687	240	164	330	19,486	19,371	37,363
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	410	520	996	1,293	1,059	515	16,099	20,644	14,338
% female	30.5	24.4	8.9	16.1	17.8	18.7	14.1	12.5	16.9
% veterans	9.3	10.8	-	37.4	42.8	-	22.0	20.5	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	8.5	7.5	-	32.5	37.2	-	11.4	12.4	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month ..	407	443	759	1,241	1,046	321	17,362	19,603	5,442
Claimants	317	366	-	983	825	-	12,902	14,590	-
% under 20 years	8.5	7.7	-	6.8	8.8	-	5.6	6.8	-
% 20 - 45 "	68.5	69.7	-	70.7	70.3	-	55.7	59.3	-
% 45 - 60 "	18.6	15.8	-	15.8	10.7	-	20.8	19.3	-
% over 60 "	4.4	6.8	-	6.7	10.2	-	17.9	14.6	-
Non-claimants	90	77	-	258	221	-	4,460	5,013	-
% under 20 years	35.6	37.7	-	36.8	33.9	-	14.8	12.7	-
% 20 - 45 "	54.4	53.2	-	55.0	58.9	-	68.1	68.9	-
% 45 - 60 "	8.9	7.3	-	4.7	3.6	-	12.5	14.4	-
% over 60 "	1.1	1.3	-	3.5	3.6	-	4.6	4.0	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	484	1,362	-	755	875	-	14,800	22,359
3. Total workers available in month	-	1,004	2,358	-	1,814	1,390	-	35,444	36,697
% referred	-	18.6	41.6	-	14.6	43.7	-	28.0	52.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	377	410	1,127	1,464	1,293	447	13,513	16,099	11,986
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month ...	7,300	7,000	9,900	10,900	10,400	9,600	482,200	471,000	483,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.26	31.92
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	44,350	19,500	-	98,020	106,530	-	-	4,677,479

Chicoutimi

Unemployment in the Chicoutimi - Arvida area continues on the downgrade. The Aluminum Company of Canada reports that as a result of industrial disputes a severe shortage of caustic soda exists. Consequently, production has been curtailed and the opening of an additional potroom scheduled to take place in August, has been postponed. Building materials are in short supply, but the housing need in Chicoutimi is not serious at the present time. Construction of the Chicoutimi - Quebec highway is progressing satisfactorily; approximately 1,000 men are now employed on this project, but this number will be reduced to 500 by the end of October. In the male labour field, loggers, carpenters, and labourers are urgently required. Job openings for women are few, except for a number of orders for domestic servants.

Hull

Employment in the iron and steel industry has declined markedly during the past two months. This is principally due to the recent shutdown of the Hull Iron and Steel Foundries plant, which left 351 workers jobless. However, a number of these men have since found other employment and the majority of those still unemployed are collecting unemployment insurance benefits. The pulp and paper industry continues to hire workers at a steady rate. The meat packing industry has commenced recruiting labour for the busy fall season. The housing shortage in Hull is serious, but will ease somewhat when houses now under construction are completed. At present, building activity is practically at a standstill because of the existing material shortages.

Montreal

Industrially, Montreal has been seriously affected by the series of strikes throughout Canada. Hardest hit are the steel using plants and the construction industry, where lay-offs due to shortages of materials have been most prevalent. In spite of production slow-down, overall employment in the Montreal area continues on the upgrade. This may be attributed to the following factors: (1) opening up of new industries, (2) tremendous expansion in service industries, and (3) current tendency among employers to reduce working hours, a step which necessitates the hiring of additional workers in order to maintain full production levels. At the present time the lack of housing accommodation is having a detrimental effect on the filling of vacancies registered at the National Employment Office. This holds especially true among the "skilled" workers, such as carpenters, auto mechanics and cabinet makers.

Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed)	123	135	69	83	85	53	14	13	24
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	1,637	1,687	2,374	6	29	119	425	432	542
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	2,192	4,106	-	48	221	-	745	829
3. Total jobs reported during month	-	3,879	6,480	-	77	340	-	1,177	1,371
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	904	2,681	-	55	230	-	487	619
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	2,762	1,094	-	502	233	-	741	376
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	1,598	1,637	2,529	27	6	70	382	425	493
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	9,237	10,526	6,012	997	851	616	263	317	537
% female.....	37.3	37.1	48.8	37.1	33.8	27.1	20.5	22.7	9.9
% veterans	18.5	18.8	-	12.5	11.2	-	35.4	26.2	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more ...	14.7	14.7	-	7.7	6.1	-	16.0	17.0	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month .	9,334	10,426	5,477	956	853	472	259	276	418
Claimants	7,138	8,528	-	897	809	-	131	162	-
% under 20 years	9.9	9.5	-	12.2	15.3	-	4.6	4.3	-
% 20 - 45 "	74.4	76.1	-	69.7	65.8	-	58.8	63.6	-
% 45 - 60 "	11.0	11.3	-	10.2	10.5	-	19.1	15.4	-
% over 60 "	4.7	3.1	-	7.9	8.4	-	17.5	16.7	-
Non-claimants	2,196	1,898	-	59	44	-	128	114	-
% under 20 years	21.2	17.4	-	37.3	43.2	-	30.5	44.7	-
% 20 - 45 "	66.7	75.6	-	55.9	36.4	-	61.7	46.5	-
% 45 - 60 "	8.7	6.0	-	3.4	6.8	-	3.9	5.3	-
% over 60 "	3.4	1.0	-	3.4	13.6	-	3.9	3.5	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	3,579	5,875	-	380	507	-	647	1,169
3. Total workers available in month	-	14,105	11,887	-	1,231	1,123	-	964	1,706
% referred	-	12.5	31.3	-	4.5	29.1	-	68.3	51.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	8,393	9,237	5,849	970	997	618	271	263	449
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	68,400	66,900	86,400	11,700	11,200	700	20,000	15,500	18,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	27.02	29.12	-	-	-	-	24.46	26.38
Construction:	-	591,490	591,825	-	157,070	73,670	-	-	37,480
Value of building permits (000's)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Quebec

Unemployment in Quebec continues to decrease. Companies started to hire woods labour for fall and winter operations towards the end of August. The new Seamen's Section of the local employment office has been functioning since the beginning of August with the cooperation of both employers and seamen. The situation in the construction industry continues to deteriorate with the lack of building materials. Several large construction projects may have to be suspended for want of steel. Construction labour seems to keep fairly busy by going from one job to another. Negotiations between municipal authorities and the federal government for the purchase of the St. Malo arsenal have been proceeding during the month and it is reported that private Canadian and American interests are seeking to buy the property for conversion into a major industrial enterprise. The tight labour situation in the service trades has not brightened to any extent and the tourist season has heightened the demand of hotels and restaurants. The vacancies in domestic service and in hospitals are not easily filled. Not only are the wages too low for the applicants, but they do not wish to accept employment in jobs not covered by unemployment insurance.

Shawinigan Falls

Unplaced applicants, male and female, increased by about 14 per cent from June 27, to August 29. The increase in unemployment is due almost entirely to material shortages. The local textile mill laid-off 300 employees because no cotton is available. The Aluminum Company of Canada Limited has been forced to lay-off 110 employees because of the lack of steel for reinforcing aluminum cables. Proposed construction activity, although extensive is also being retarded by material shortages. Pulp and paper is the only manufacturing industry not affected by scarcity of essential materials. There were virtually no vacancies for the 643 male applicants, at August 29, most of whom are unskilled workers, millwrights, metalworkers, construction workers, electricians, and "white collar" workers. Similarly there were only 10 vacancies for 327 female applicants at August 29.

Sherbrooke

The employment situation has improved since June 27. The main difficulty lies in securing male and female workers for the textile industry. A new silk plant is scheduled to start operating within the next few months. This will put a further strain on the already existing shortage of female labour. The Sherbrooke quota for bushmen to work in the U.S.A. has been cancelled but it is doubtful if this regulation will prove beneficial to this area as demand for woodsmen is virtually nil. The steel strike has not been felt appreciably in the area yet. The number of unplaced veterans is very small. Demand for male construction workers, unskilled workers, metalworkers, and textile workers is high and with the exception of "white collar" workers, most applicants could be employed if suitably qualified. Female requirements for textile mills are very high with very few suitable applicants available. Between three and four hundred more dwellings could be used, but the price and scarcity of materials are discouraging factors to private building.

Item	Sorel			Ste. Therese			Three Rivers		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed)	82	101	14	42	47	16	83	77	47
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	89	72	436	231	264	324	180	236	461
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	561	715	-	425	359	-	628	1,062
3. Total jobs reported during month	-	633	1,151	-	689	683	-	864	1,523
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	74	426	-	288	270	-	211	786
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	380	4	-	104	16	-	1,004	241
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	50	89	284	200	231	359	140	180	409
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	754	970	200	185	247	94	2,759	2,585	1,216
% female	19.5	18.9	18.5	56.2	49.8	28.7	26.4	27.8	44.2
% veterans	9.3	8.2	-	7.6	8.9	-	14.1	13.5	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	8.5	7.2	-	3.8	6.5	-	9.8	10.0	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month..	736	942	141	170	212	8	2,552	2,537	1,230
Claimants	717	889	-	161	189	-	1,390	1,385	-
% under 20 years	11.3	7.1	-	5.6	6.9	-	13.2	12.0	-
% 20 - 45	63.2	64.8	-	64.0	59.3	-	72.0	72.3	-
% 45 - 60	15.9	17.8	-	13.0	20.6	-	10.2	11.9	-
% over 60	9.6	10.3	-	17.4	13.2	-	4.6	3.8	-
Non-claimants	19	53	-	9	23	-	1,162	1,152	-
% under 20 years	5.3	11.3	-	55.6	21.7	-	33.8	25.3	-
% 20 - 45	63.2	66.0	-	44.4	47.8	-	53.0	62.0	-
% 45 - 60	21.0	17.0	-	-	26.1	-	11.2	11.3	-
% over 60	10.5	5.7	-	-	4.4	-	2.0	1.4	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	409	945	-	295	424	-	1,525	1,894
3. Total workers available in month	-	1,379	1,145	-	542	518	-	4,110	3,110
% referred	-	8.1	44.0	-	51.7	70.1	-	9.7	27.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	616	754	207	165	185	102	2,974	2,759	1,757
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	7,500	7,600	15,400	3,900	3,900	10,600	35,800	35,200	39,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30.54	28.46
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	-	23,850	-	-	-	-	690,925	51,275

Sorel

Since June 27, unplaced applicants have declined approximately 27 per cent. This reduction is due to the hiring of men in the shipbuilding industry. Steel foundries in Sorel are still working normally. Construction work on the two hospitals in this city is progressing well and only a few employees have been laid-off because of lack of materials. Material shortages, particularly a shortage of steel would produce a drastic slump in employment in this city, most especially in the shipbuilding industry and steel foundries, the only large employers of labour left in Sorel. As at August 29, there were only 40 vacancies for the 511 male applicants most of whom are unskilled workers; metalworkers (greatly diversified); "white collar" workers, a few electricians, and construction workers. The new textile plant in Sorel has absorbed many female workers, and still has a small demand. With the exception of the demand for textile and service workers there are virtually no vacancies for the 105 female applicants.

Ste. Therese

Manufacturing in this area has steadily expanded during the summer months with unplaced applicants correspondingly less numerous. Several new industries have opened up and others plan to do so as soon as building materials become available. The woodworking industry has shown the greatest expansion. The Commonwealth Plywood Company Limited has taken on approximately 140 employees since July 3, and at present reports openings for 40 more. In the clothing manufacturing industry the need for skilled and unskilled machine operators is preventing further expansion. The construction of the Andreef Sporting Goods Company has been delayed by material shortages and all building projects in the area have been slowed up. There is a particularly heavy demand for labourers in this district, with few suitable applicants available. As previously stated, sewing machine operators are practically unobtainable.

Three Rivers

The number of unplaced applicants has climbed during the month to a level slightly above what it was at the end of May. The principal cause of the increase is the slowing down of the construction industry because of shortages of building material. Work on the bridge between Three Rivers and Cap de la Madeleine has been employing about 150 men and this number would be increased if the necessary materials were more plentiful. Work on the annex of the Cooke sanatorium has also been slowed down by the shortage of materials. Contractors have been releasing their employees until the situation becomes a little easier. Employment in the paper companies is steady with little demand for labour. The textile industry has been hiring few workers. In general, the present labour picture is not promising.

Item	Valleyfield			Brantford			Collingwood		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unemployed apps. per 1000 employed)	416	1,079	46	20	22	12	139	165	12
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month	329	354	729	682	689	833	50	57	122
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	85	784	-	895	830	-	95	115
3. Total jobs reported during month	-	439	1,513	-	1,584	1,663	-	152	237
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	71	486	-	437	587	-	87	98
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	218	82	-	506	198	-	266	70
6. Unfilled vacancies, end of month	28	329	725	647	682	677	36	50	58
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	2,914	2,714	367	358	532	160	247	308	26
% female	32.2	28.9	11.4	48.3	43.2	41.3	21.1	17.2	19.2
% veterans	8.1	6.9	-	21.5	22.4	-	32.0	33.1	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	6.7	6.4	-	13.7	16.0	-	29.6	29.5	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month ..	3,124	2,675	200	358	504	85	242	308	6
Claimants	2,462	2,312	-	239	301	-	242	282	-
% under 20 years	17.5	18.3	-	2.5	1.7	-	3.3	4.3	-
% 20 - 45	60.4	59.9	-	36.8	35.2	-	57.0	52.5	-
% 45 - 60	18.8	17.8	-	29.3	24.9	-	27.3	29.4	-
% over 60	3.3	4.0	-	31.4	38.2	-	12.4	13.8	-
Non-Claimants	662	363	-	119	203	-	00.0	26	-
% under 20 years	23.9	11.3	-	22.7	39.4	-	0.0	0.0	-
% 20 - 45	58.8	56.8	-	58.0	50.2	-	0.0	88.5	-
% 45 - 60	14.9	18.7	-	18.5	8.9	-	0.0	3.8	-
% over 60	2.4	13.2	-	0.8	1.5	-	0.0	7.7	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	627	767	-	602	891	-	100	141
3. Total workers available in month	-	3,341	1,134	-	1,134	1,051	-	408	167
% referred	-	3.3	58.0	-	44.0	66.1	-	21.3	58.1
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	1,124	2,914	293	326	358	193	209	247	23
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month ...	2,700	2,500	6,300	16,200	16,100	16,800	1,500	1,200	2,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	29,945	44,710	-	33,752	66,330	-	10,925	1,070

Valleyfield

As the strike involving 3,000 employees on Montreal Cottons Limited enters its thirteenth week, it is apparent that the economy of this area has been seriously disrupted. Field reports indicate that at least 1,000 persons have left town to seek work elsewhere. This means that when Montreal Cottons Limited resumes operations, approximately 500 unskilled female workers and 500 experienced carders, spinners and weavers will be required. Several smaller textile companies plan to start production early this fall. This will further aggravate the labour shortage. War Assets Corporation is operating a repair depot in Valleyfield and reports indicate that they will hire an additional 250 employees shortly. In the construction field, lack of building materials is seriously curtailing activity, thus demand for labour, both skilled and unskilled, is practically nil. With available vacancies being filled by strikers, demand for male workers is light. However, there are a number of openings for heavy labourers. Demand for women is heaviest in the service worker category.

Brantford

Brantford remains an area of labour shortage, in spite of current material shortages stemming from industrial disputes throughout the country. Lay-offs have taken place in smaller companies but released workers are readily absorbed by the larger firms, such as Massey-Harris and Cockshutt Plow, where labour demand is high. A large proportion of vacancies registered with the local office are standing orders from companies wishing to replace female workers and elderly men by more suitable male workers, as, and when, they become available. As mentioned in a previous report, the housing shortage prevents employers from hiring outside labour. However, it is noted that Massey-Harris has recruited labour from other centres, having taken over abandoned air force buildings to provide accommodation for employees. The construction industry shows continued activity with small housing projects mostly in evidence. The demand for carpenters is light although construction labourers, skilled plumbers and brush painters are urgently required. There appears to be a serious shortage of materials, especially nails, hardware, and gypoc.

Collingwood

Local canning factories are now operating at full capacity, and although the work is of a seasonal nature it provides a stop-gap for workers laid-off from less active industries. The picture in the shipbuilding industry is not bright, not because contracts are lacking but because of the stoppage of steel deliveries. Lay-offs in this industry are expected to increase at an alarming rate unless more steel is available soon. The Quinlan's Manufacturing Company (hassocks manufacturing) is gradually increasing its staff, but the shortage of experienced power machine operators is delaying expansion. The Globe Plywood Company is hiring many former shipyard workers, in line with its increased production program. Construction is still going on in the plant and more building tradesmen will be required as soon as materials are available. Among female workers, waitresses and sewing machine operators are most urgently required. Demand for male help is light, while there is a large number of skilled and semi-skilled metal workers seeking employment.

Item	Fort Erie			Ft. William & Ft. Arthur			Hamilton		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed)	180	166	84	85	91	25	63	59	17
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	71	274	301	5,557	5,516	4,433	1,227	2,640	5,088
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	226	195	-	3,810	3,794	-	2,516	3,903
3. Total jobs reported during month	-	500	496	-	9,326	8,227	-	5,156	8,991
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	284	170	-	1,399	1,909	-	1,370	2,389
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	8	20	-	2,681	878	-	1,718	846
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	47	71	277	7,576	5,557	4,958	1,514	1,227	4,553
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	183	220	75	2,132	3,226	770	4,934	4,807	1,542
% female	62.3	53.6	22.7	41.3	37.5	20.3	26.1	27.8	17.1
% veterans	12.0	15.9	-	22.9	23.2	-	24.3	30.2	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	9.8	12.3	-	11.0	11.2	-	6.2	18.9	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month ..	171	220	10	2,260	2,904	365	4,712	4,736	945
Claims	90	124	-	1,689	2,300	-	3,184	2,863	-
% under 20 years	1.1	3.2	-	5.9	6.7	-	9.5	4.8	-
% 20 - 45	72.2	65.3	-	67.6	67.4	-	55.8	54.2	-
% 45 - 60	7.8	14.5	-	15.5	16.7	-	19.8	27.2	-
% over 60	18.9	17.0	-	11.0	9.2	-	14.9	13.8	-
Non-claimants	81	96	-	571	604	-	1,528	1,873	-
% under 20 years	24.7	19.8	-	28.2	20.5	-	27.2	29.4	-
% 20 - 45	69.1	66.7	-	56.6	62.3	-	56.3	50.7	-
% 45 - 60	3.7	12.5	-	12.1	13.7	-	11.1	15.2	-
% over 60	2.5	1.0	-	3.1	3.5	-	5.4	4.7	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	319	426	-	1,855	2,182	-	3,916	3,919
3. Total workers available in month	-	539	501	-	5,081	2,952	-	8,723	5,461
% referred	-	102.6	52.9	-	27.8	76.9	-	38.6	73.8
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	198	183	118	1,994	2,132	804	5,293	4,934	1,390
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month ...	1,100	1,000	2,500	23,400	23,100	32,800	83,800	83,300	84,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " ...	-	-	-	-	35.03	36.57	-	32.36	33.11
Construction:									
Value of buildings permits (000's)	-	17,400	1,100	-	638,725	277,198	-	409,216	341,408

Fort Erie

The number of unplaced applicants has steadily decreased since April 1, 1946. This is due to a great extent to increased activity in the tourist trade and in agriculture. Fleet Aircraft Limited is now in the process of reconversion to the manufacture of cabin trailers, and will commence operations in December. Irvin Airchute expects to recall its employees shortly to begin work on a new government contract. The Horton Steel Works Limited reports that unless steel supplies are received within the next ten days, it will be forced to close down, laying off approximately 140 men. Work in the construction industry is at a standstill. Among the male unemployed, skilled and semi-skilled metal workers, and labourers, are most numerous. Female applicants are largely clerical workers and unskilled workers.

Fort William - Port Arthur

Since June 27, unfilled vacancies have gone up slightly and unplaced applicants have declined by approximately 38 per cent. An estimated 10,000 men will be required to fill operational schedules of the logging companies in this area. The pulp and paper industry still requires skilled men for the production of sulphite, and in addition there is a heavy demand for millyard labour. Carpenters, bricklayers, cement finishers, plumbers, and unskilled labour, are still required at the townsites of Terrace and Red Rock. There is a large number of orders on hand for miners. Transportation, rail and water, is very active. The Canadian Car and Foundry Company has laid-off 250 employees since August 1, because of steel shortages. The only notable surplus of workers, where demand at the same time is light, are metalworkers, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, and "white collar" workers. Demand is light for the many female applicants.

Hamilton

Currently, the employment picture in Hamilton looks exceedingly black. Three major industries are on strike - the Canadian Westinghouse Company Limited, affecting 4,000 men, the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company of Canada Limited, 1,500 men, and the Steel Company of Canada Limited, involving roughly 3,000 workers. Every day sees another Hamilton firm affected by these and other strikes throughout the country, having to lay-off men as material supplies become exhausted. With thousands of men being released from strike-bound plants, many available vacancies in other industries, including agriculture, have been filled. This is reflected in the sharp drop in the number of unfilled vacancies registered with the National Employment offices between August 1, and September 1. Women out on strike, unlike men on strike, seem reluctant to accept other jobs, thus the demand for female help has changed little. Among male unemployed there is a heavy surplus of skilled and semi-skilled metal workers and light labourers. The large number of female applicants consists largely of women who are temporarily out of work because of strikes.

Item	Kingston			Kitchener - Waterloo			London		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed)	30	33	15	7	9	3	23	27	20
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	422	321	778	891	1,043	1,475	1,676	1,816	2,148
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	1,087	675	-	1,261	1,463	-	2,731	2,970
3. Total jobs reported during month	-	1,408	1,453	-	2,304	2,938	-	4,547	5,118
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	642	588	-	514	646	-	1,255	1,546
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	296	70	-	778	149	-	1,137	574
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	342	422	596	799	891	1,544	1,625	1,676	1,784
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	579	718	244	323	237	68	858	921	559
% female	25.9	23.0	52.0	10.5	16.9	29.4	21.3	20.3	31.8
% veterans	33.2	30.1	-	35.6	28.3	-	43.4	36.2	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	27.8	25.1	-	9.9	4.6	-	23.4	22.8	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month ..	544	627	186	278	183	15	797	693	277
Claimants	229	289	-	78	44	-	291	266	-
% under 20 years	3.0	5.5	-	5.1	-	-	1.0	1.5	-
% 20 - 45	38.4	41.9	-	50.0	15.9	-	20.6	21.4	-
% 45 - 60	29.3	21.1	-	16.7	25.0	-	26.8	22.6	-
% over 60	29.3	31.5	-	28.2	59.1	-	51.6	54.5	-
Non-claimants	315	338	-	200	139	-	506	427	-
% under 20 years	32.4	39.4	-	22.0	30.2	-	27.1	37.7	-
% 20 - 45	57.8	50.0	-	60.0	59.0	-	49.0	44.7	-
% 45 - 60	5.7	6.2	-	14.5	9.4	-	19.0	13.4	-
% over 60	4.1	4.4	-	3.5	1.4	-	4.9	4.2	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	958	770	-	726	764	-	1,855	2,393
3. Total workers available in month	-	1,676	1,014	-	963	832	-	2,776	2,952
% referred	-	66.5	96.2	-	81.5	95.6	-	71.4	84.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	532	579	268	267	323	103	735	858	604
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month ...	17,800	18,000	18,100	36,300	36,200	33,300	31,700	32,000	29,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	30.50	29.88	-	30.96	30.14
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	155,814	156,538	-	-	228,972	-	175,275	125,825

Kingston

Work at both the Canadian Locomotive Company and the Canadian Engineering and Shipbuilding Company is slackening because of material shortages. The former company has been forced to reduce its working hours from 48 to 32 per week. The Canadian Engineering and Shipbuilding Company has a number of contracts on hand, but cannot secure sufficient steel to enable them to start construction work on any new ships. The Aluminum Company of Canada is the only local employer hiring any number of men at the present time. The Kingston area is definitely handicapped by lack of housing accommodation. Many vacancies listed with the National Employment Office remain unfilled because no suitable applicants are available locally, and employers are blocked from importing labour by the housing shortage. There is a heavy demand for light factory labourers. In the female labour field stenographers, typists, and domestic workers are in short supply.

Kitchener-Waterloo

From June 27 to August 29, unplaced applicants increased slightly, despite the strike in the rubber industry and in one textile plant affiliated with the rubber industry. Demand for construction workers and unskilled workers is still very high with few applicants available. Furniture factories still have an urgent demand for woodworkers and cabinet makers. All other manufacturing plants with the exception of "radio" still require help. There is still an urgent demand for auto mechanics. The only cases in which applicants exceed vacancies, are for male clerical, sales, managerial, professional, and electrical workers. Demand for female workers is very high in all cases, and particularly high for textile workers.

London

Employment activity in the manufacturing field slackened off noticeably during July and August. This was caused by the intermittent shutting down of many plants in order to provide employees with vacations with pay. Under normal circumstances labour demand would show a marked increase towards the end of August. However, it appears that because of the uncertainty of receiving additional steel supplies, many local plants have deferred placing orders with the National Employment Office. In spite of this temporary lull, the labour shortage in London remains serious. The lower paying industries such as textile and clothing manufacturers are finding it particularly difficult to fill their labour requirements. As mentioned in previous reports, the lack of housing in London is the main drawback to increased employment. The many veterans attending university have further added to the congestion. In the male labour field the following types of workers are most urgently required; service workers, construction tradesmen, mechanics, and unskilled labourers. Demand for female workers is heaviest in the clerical, service, and unskilled worker categories. Skilled and semi-skilled textile workers are also in short supply.

Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed)	23	29	17	219	135	115	56	58	25
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	1,217	370	561	546	627	950	1,459	1,683	2,363
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	1,550	689	-	986	881	-	2,292	4,530
3. Total jobs reported during month	-	1,920	1,250	-	1,613	1,831	-	3,975	6,893
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	506	548	-	541	626	-	1,166	2,658
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	456	86	-	413	70	-	2,348	798
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	1,058	1,217	447	402	545	951	1,656	1,452	2,237
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	489	480	359	2,297	2,594	1,424	3,486	3,639	988
% female	29.4	32.3	26.2	40.3	48.9	62.9	31.0	30.5	45.3
% veterans	21.1	28.8	-	22.7	20.1	-	44.2	39.7	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	12.5	18.8	-	13.0	15.0	-	28.1	33.4	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month ..	490	457	202	2,171	2,508	1,362	3,577	3,459	585
Claimants	161	196	-	1,219	1,661	-	2,201	2,162	-
% under 20 years	1.2	3.6	-	9.3	8.8	-	3.5	4.8	-
% 20 - 45	36.7	42.3	-	71.7	70.1	-	61.0	60.4	-
% 45 - 60	32.3	33.7	-	12.9	12.6	-	18.5	22.5	-
% over 60	29.8	20.4	-	6.1	8.5	-	17.0	12.3	-
Non-claimants	329	261	-	952	847	-	1,376	1,297	-
% under 20 years	49.9	42.5	-	34.3	27.6	-	16.1	16.5	-
% 20 - 45	39.5	43.7	-	50.5	52.9	-	71.2	70.4	-
% 45 - 60	7.9	10.4	-	11.6	13.7	-	8.9	10.9	-
% over 60	2.7	3.4	-	3.6	5.8	-	3.8	2.2	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	705	689	-	1,001	2,442	-	2,855	4,160
3. Total workers available in month	-	1,185	1,048	-	3,595	3,866	-	6,494	5,148
% referred	-	59.1	73.3	-	27.4	22.8	-	38.3	68.9
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	389	489	258	3,726	2,297	2,192	3,395	3,486	1,379
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month ...	16,600	17,100	14,800	17,000	17,000	20,300	60,500	59,200	55,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28.63	28.42
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	146,285	57,230	-	167,255	60,312	-	1,410,429	264,630

Niagara Falls

The sharp rise in the number of job vacancies registered with the National Employment Office is due to the heavy demand for men and women to help harvest the abundant peach crop. This season's crop is reported to be the largest in ten years. Consequently it is expected that the local canning factories will be extremely busy until the latter part of October. The tourist trade has experienced an unprecedented boom this season, and labour demand, instead of slackening after Labour Day has still further increased. Local chemical and abrasives companies are still asking for heavy labourers, but this type of applicant is scarce. One of the larger abrasive manufacturing plants has been successful in recruiting labour from nearby cities, but the shortage of housing accommodation in Niagara Falls limits this type of action. Demand for construction workers, both skilled and unskilled, has slackened off considerably because of the recent slow down in construction activity.

Oshawa

According to field reports there is a large potential increase in new industries in the Oshawa area. If all prospects materialize there will be a demand spread over the next twelve months for approximately 2,500 men and 1,500 women. Currently the employment picture in Oshawa has been distorted by strikes affecting the automobile industry. At the General Motors Corporation plant intermittent lay-offs involving upwards of 2,000 workers have taken place during the past month. The most serious material shortages affecting the automobile industry are those of rubber, steel, and glass. As a result of the strike situation casual employers of labour, such as farmers, are having little difficulty in filling their labour requirements. Many workers laid off temporarily, are helping out with the harvesting and canning operations. Almost half of the total number of male unplaced applicants are in the light labour group. Female job seekers are for the most part clerical, sales, and unskilled workers.

Ottawa

The strike situation has not had any marked effect on the economy of this city, chiefly because of the lack of heavy industry in Ottawa. The demand for skilled workers in construction continues to be strong despite current shortages of building materials. Demand for automobile mechanics is increasing weekly with no suitable applicants available. In the clerical and professional field, demand and supply appear to be poorly balanced. Druggists, scientists, technicians, etc., are urgently required with few applicants available. There are a large number of job seekers in the clerical worker group, but demand is light. Heavy labourers are in short supply, while light labourers are by far in excess of demand. Among female job seekers, there is a heavy surplus of clerical workers. Predominant in this group are married women, for the most part ex-civil servants who lack qualifications required in private industry. Demand is heaviest for the following types of female workers: stenographers, typists, service workers, and unskilled workers.

Item	Peterborough			St. Catharines			Sault Ste. Marie		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed).....	20	21	9	45	55	25	60	50	13
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	386	431	652	1,198	565	586	1,285	1,492	1,384
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	734	662	-	1,743	1,700	-	592	1,424
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	1,165	1,314	-	2,308	2,286	-	2,084	2,808
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	526	580	-	681	1,002	-	194	423
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	685	193	-	802	49	-	380	79
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	408	386	550	1,367	1,198	1,174	816	1,285	1,457
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	489	734	222	1,548	1,572	668	797	439	154
% female.....	11.0	6.3	29.3	45.9	48.4	63.3	32.7	60.1	82.5
% veterans.....	40.7	48.6	-	22.9	23.5	-	6.3	10.5	-
% vets unplaced 15 days or more....	23.9	39.4	-	14.4	15.8	-	4.3	6.8	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	374	646	100	1,537	1,572	578	697	374	158
Claimants.....	192	361	-	975	971	-	597	255	-
% under 20 years.....	2.6	8.3	-	8.3	8.1	-	5.7	7.9	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	55.2	64.5	-	65.1	68.3	-	64.6	69.8	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	26.6	17.5	-	17.4	16.0	-	22.3	9.4	-
% over 60 ".....	15.6	9.7	-	9.2	7.6	-	7.4	12.9	-
Non-claimants.....	182	287	-	562	601	-	100	119	-
% under 20 years.....	31.3	36.2	-	26.9	25.5	-	41.0	40.3	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	58.3	55.1	-	56.0	65.5	-	52.0	56.3	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	8.8	7.3	-	13.0	7.3	-	4.0	0.9	-
% over 60 ".....	1.6	1.4	-	4.1	1.7	-	3.0	2.5	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	698	718	-	1,342	1,290	-	659	583
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,432	940	-	2,914	1,958	-	1,098	737
% referred.....	-	55.2	80.3	-	35.3	70.5	-	21.5	63.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	470	489	177	1,283	1,548	715	947	797	207
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	23,300	22,800	20,200	28,300	28,600	28,300	15,900	15,900	15,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	683,102	76,544	-	250,990	51,995	-	94,751	56,598

Peterborough

From June 27 to August 29, unplaced applicants have dwindled considerably and unfilled vacancies have gone up slightly. Manufacturing plants are well staffed, but in view of growing material shortages brought on by numerous strikes, lay-offs will undoubtedly occur, as some companies without sufficient materials are now retaining men, keeping them occupied in the hope that the material situation will improve. Material shortages alone are responsible for the light demand for factory workers prevalent for some time past, and many factories will undoubtedly increase their staffs when materials become available. Western farm hands have alleviated the great shortage of farm labour in this district. There is a shortage of competent women in almost every line of endeavour. Construction activity is being seriously retarded by material shortages, consequently construction crews are at a minimum. There is only the odd room available for living accommodation, and there are practically no rooms with board. Only 50 homes will be completed by this fall, while there are 750 ex-servicemen looking for houses.

St. Catharines

So far, shortages caused by industrial disputes in other areas have not resulted in lay-offs in this city. It is obvious, however, that the continuation of strikes in basic steel, rubber, and electrical apparatus industries will soon make it impossible for some of the secondary industries in St. Catharines to carry on. Local canning factories, now in their busiest season, are unable to secure sufficient labour. The demand for men considerably exceeds the available supply. Male unplaced applicants are for the most part men who are changing jobs, thus they are temporarily registered as unemployed. Owing to the shortage of housing accommodation, even rooms for single men, it is almost impossible to obtain workers from outside areas. There is a serious shortage of female labour in this city. Office workers, all types of factory workers, service workers, and unskilled workers are in short supply. The number of claimants for unemployment insurance is steadily decreasing, as many persons are exhausting their benefits and retiring from the employment field.

Sault Ste. Marie

The steel strike has resulted in the doubling of the number of unplaced applicants and a considerable reduction in unfilled vacancies. Most of the vacancies in agriculture were filled by men thrown out of work by the strike at Algoma Steel. Other men on strike are accepting work on extra gang railway maintenance. Hundreds of men can be absorbed in the logging industry. Michipicoten Iron Mines and Algoma Ore Properties have all the labour they require. Shortage of materials is preventing the construction industry from providing a substantial source of work, however carpenters are still in good demand for vacancies outside the city. Most of the male unplaced applicants are classified as miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, metalworkers, and "white collar" workers. Demand is very light for female workers, most of whom are clerical and sales workers.

Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed).....	161	156	36	51	74	39	23	43	32
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	318	571	1,054	3,902	4,240	5,125	939	858	1,200
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,546	2,544	-	7,076	7,460	-	2,018	1,585
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	2,117	3,598	-	11,316	12,585	-	2,876	1,785
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	1,169	2,272	-	4,079	4,735	-	1,369	1,242
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	1,053	406	-	4,168	2,716	-	1,006	595
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	255	318	979	4,830	3,902	5,223	1,138	939	1,098
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	7,947	5,498	2,028	10,168	10,841	5,101	1,303	1,287	723
% female.....	25.0	33.5	40.3	22.5	23.2	39.7	33.6	32.9	43.5
% veterans.....	27.5	26.4	-	39.7	41.1	-	24.4	24.6	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more...	24.6	19.4	-	24.6	32.5	-	22.0	23.2	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.	7,370	5,328	1,723	9,453	9,874	3,948	1,139	1,119	596
Claimants.....	4,585	3,740	-	5,030	6,244	-	417	557	-
% under 20 years.....	9.4	9.5	-	4.0	4.9	-	3.8	4.3	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	68.1	72.5	-	65.3	64.8	-	52.1	58.5	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	17.8	14.5	-	16.7	17.2	-	26.1	21.2	-
% over 60 ".....	4.7	31.5	-	14.0	13.1	-	18.0	16.0	-
Non-claimants.....	2,785	1,588	-	4,423	3,630	-	722	562	-
% under 20 years.....	13.0	26.4	-	36.8	35.6	-	60.0	54.1	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	80.9	61.6	-	50.4	53.2	-	33.1	38.3	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	5.2	10.2	-	8.7	9.6	-	5.8	7.3	-
% over 60 ".....	0.9	1.8	-	2.1	1.6	-	1.1	0.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	5,474	3,370	-	9,025	7,822	-	2,490	2,411
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	10,972	5,398	-	19,866	12,923	-	3,777	3,134
% referred.....	-	15.2	58.7	-	34.5	57.2	-	58.1	65.8
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	8,185	7,947	1,980	7,010	10,168	4,997	711	1,303	899
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	50,800	50,100	55,300	126,900	135,700	125,700	30,300	29,900	29,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	37.46	39.60	-	30.50	29.71	-	29.21	27.84
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	197,155	375,064	-	781,700	1,164,200	-	532,750	126,355

Windsor

The employment situation in Windsor is growing steadily worse. The following companies are still closed down because of labour disputes: the Chrysler Corporation of Canada Limited, Canadian Industries Limited, Truscon Steel Company of Canada Limited, and Brunner, Mond Canada Limited. Many manufacturers, lacking material supplies, have closed down entirely, while others are operating on a short working week. By the end of August the number of workers laid-off because of strikes had passed the 15,000 mark. Building has been seriously curtailed because of strikes and material shortages. A number of skilled construction mechanics, released from strike-bound manufacturing plants, have entered the construction industry, thus temporarily relieving the labour shortage. In the transportation industry, demand is chiefly for track maintenance workers for jobs outside the city limits. It is very difficult to fill orders of the latter type. Orders for sales clerks and waitresses show a decided decline. The few demands for kitchen help, maids, and hospital workers, are being readily met.

Winnipeg

From May 27 to August 29, unplaced applicants have decreased approximately 15 per cent and unfilled vacancies have increased about 8 per cent. In the past few weeks 650 farm labourers have been placed. A steady flow of applicants is being placed in the mine fields. The heavy demand for loggers will probably be met after the harvest is completed. Material shortages are delaying activities in most manufacturing industries and lay-offs have occurred, although they are not extensive as yet. There is a steady demand for construction labour. Skilled tradesmen are very scarce. Though many applicants are registered as such, they are frequently not up to the standard required by employers. The largest surpluses of male workers are centered in the metalworking, truck driving, unskilled, and "white collar" categories. There is a heavy demand for female stenographers, service workers, textile workers, laundry workers, and unskilled workers. It is felt that the present housing program will temporarily relieve the housing shortage for workers.

Regina

From June 27 to August 29, unplaced applicants have decreased and unfilled vacancies have increased. Some 400 agricultural workers have been placed in the last several weeks. Many of these men are from the east. Construction work is extremely active and up to date contractors are retaining full crews but shortages of cement, nails and glass are now serious and lay-offs will occur. Demand for good heavy labour for railways, packing-plants, and kindred employers is strong with very few suitable applicants available. No manufacturing plants have cut staffs or hours as yet, because of material shortages. A very large percentage of the unreferred applicants are unskilled and past middle age. Overall demand for male help with the exception of clerical and sales workers is high. Demand for female help is very high in all categories. It is estimated that only 352 of the 960 housing units under construction will be finished by winter, leaving a waiting list of 460 families as at July 15.

Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed).....	25	36	19	51	52	34	30	40	27
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	916	908	846	1,141	1,343	1,991	1,854	1,768	1,990
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,546	969	-	3,250	3,470	-	4,202	4,412
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	2,454	1,815	-	4,593	5,461	-	5,970	6,402
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	664	542	-	2,378	2,548	-	2,418	3,168
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	1,045	1,017	-	2,031	1,075	-	2,212	856
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	874	916	694	1,220	1,141	1,783	2,006	1,854	1,941
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	1,592	1,857	912	2,565	3,086	1,432	2,855	3,400	1,553
% female.....	33.0	25.4	34.4	21.1	17.7	26.2	17.1	18.1	27.5
% veterans.....	33.2	39.9	-	42.3	43.9	-	46.9	46.4	-
% vets unplaced 15 days or more....	22.9	22.6	-	29.6	32.9	-	20.7	20.4	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	1,325	1,758	591	2,595	2,890	1,084	2,730	3,131	1,036
Claimants.....	497	698	-	1,094	1,585	-	1,303	1,831	-
% under 20 years.....	4.4	4.3	-	4.7	5.7	-	3.7	4.2	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	61.2	64.7	-	47.0	54.0	-	54.9	67.3	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	21.3	20.5	-	24.7	25.4	-	26.6	17.8	-
% over 60 ".....	13.1	10.5	-	23.6	14.9	-	14.8	10.7	-
Non-claimants.....	828	1,060	-	1,501	1,305	-	1,427	1,300	-
% under 20 years.....	37.9	35.1	-	28.0	30.2	-	37.5	32.6	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	49.2	55.6	-	57.6	56.7	-	48.6	52.3	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	9.8	8.3	-	10.7	10.8	-	11.4	12.3	-
% over 60 ".....	3.1	1.0	-	3.7	2.3	-	2.5	2.8	-
2. Applicants registered during month....	-	1,639	1,940	-	3,538	3,701	-	4,568	4,606
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	3,496	2,852	-	6,624	5,133	-	7,968	6,159
% referred.....	-	36.9	30.3	-	49.7	62.7	-	46.8	73.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	1,078	1,592	745	2,519	2,565	1,509	2,103	2,855	1,720
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	43,700	43,600	38,100	49,000	47,900	44,400	70,900	70,500	61,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	28.10	26.23	-	32.02	31.89	-	30.52	29.49
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	1275,445	106,825	-	453,338	721,180	-	1,295,440	771,752

Saskatoon

Unplaced applicants have been reduced considerably since June 27, without any comparable decrease in unfilled vacancies. Harvest operations are well underway and more men will be employed as the season progresses. There is still a heavy demand for all types of construction workers with

few suitable applicants available. Employers in the retail and wholesale business are finding it extremely difficult to obtain supplies. Demand for stenographers is growing. There has been a slight lay-off in the iron and steel industry because of the steel strike. The largest surplus of men are unskilled workers, truck drivers, and professional and managerial workers. Demand for female help is high but is centered in the domestic field, leaving a surplus of unplaced applicants in the unskilled, clerical, and sales groups. It is felt that any further demand for labour as industry expands will be met by employees who are now working in the construction industry. There are now over 1,000 houses under construction in this city.

Calgary

Since June 27, unplaced applicants have continued to decline. Placements have increased. A scarcity of agricultural workers is expected by the end of August. Packing plants are increasing their staffs in preparation for the winter run of livestock. There is still a good demand for skilled construction workers but shortages of finishing materials is retarding the completion of many private dwellings. There is a heavy demand for men for extra gang railway maintenance work. Male unplaced applicants are chiefly unskilled workers, truck drivers, service workers, and clerical and professional workers. Female demand and supply are well balanced numerically but not categorically, as most of the demand is for service workers, while many of the applicants are registered for clerical work. While there is still a serious shortage of housing in Calgary, this has not been detrimental to filling vacancies listed with the local employment office.

Edmonton

Unplaced applicants have been reduced approximately 38 per cent since June 27, while unfilled vacancies remain stable, as at August 29. It is expected that orders for farm labour will increase from this time on and that from 2,500 to 3,000 extra harvest hands will be required. There is a heavy demand for bush and sawmill workers. Packing plants require men but it is likely a shortage of men for this industry will prevail until after harvesting. Material shortages of cement and steel, are affecting the construction industry. Demand for male workers is very high but as usual there is a preponderance of truck drivers, and "white collar" workers. Female demand is very high for service workers and low for clerical workers.

Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed).....	40	44	14	28	28	19	83	100	13
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacancies, first of month.....	2,207	2,393	2,978	14,985	19,517	24,374	299	371	1,493
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,579	2,758	-	22,750	27,526	-	641	2,129
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	3,972	5,736	-	42,267	51,900	-	1,012	3,622
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	911	1,318	-	9,505	13,026	-	469	542
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	967	309	-	14,154	3,611	-	183	66
6. Unfilled vacancies, end of month.....	3,088	2,207	4,007	16,914	14,985	24,975	245	299	1,819
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	1,159	1,494	498	10,436	11,553	7,525	941	1,083	107
% female.....	36.2	33.9	34.7	8.4	9.7	20.0	55.9	50.6	43.0
% veterans.....	19.3	19.7	-	45.0	46.4	-	16.9	14.0	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more...	13.2	14.5	-	28.3	31.6	-	8.1	6.2	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	860	1,251	218	10,315	10,182	1,939	1,036	1,034	75
Claimants.....	508	792	-	6,351	6,735	-	649	747	-
% under 20 years.....	4.7	8.4	-	1.8	2.2	-	7.6	6.0	-
% 20 - 45 "	70.3	70.7	-	41.9	40.9	-	68.9	66.7	-
% 45 - 60 "	15.0	13.6	-	33.2	34.0	-	16.3	19.8	-
% over 60 "	10.0	7.3	-	23.1	22.9	-	7.2	7.5	-
Non-claimants.....	352	459	-	3,964	3,447	-	387	287	-
% under 20 years.....	31.0	33.3	-	12.2	15.4	-	22.2	28.9	-
% 20 - 45 "	54.8	55.8	-	70.1	67.3	-	61.0	57.5	-
% 45 - 60 "	11.9	8.7	-	13.7	12.2	-	14.5	10.8	-
% over 60 "	2.3	2.2	-	4.0	5.1	-	2.3	2.8	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,381	1,466	-	14,360	18,209	-	682	769
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	2,875	1,964	-	25,913	25,734	-	1,765	876
% referred.....	-	44.4	68.4	-	56.0	67.8	-	39.0	85.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	1,076	1,159	455	10,538	10,436	7,448	777	941	144
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	26,600	26,300	34,200	379,300	378,400	397,200	9,400	9,400	11,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	32,86	33.09	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	210,500	132,200	-	-	1769,735	-	18,400	94,820

Sudbury

Unemployment in the Sudbury region is now lower than it has been at any time since before the war. More than two thousand loggers are required for forestry operations in the district. Production in the base metal mining and smelting industry is steadily expanding. The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada plans to open an extra furnace shortly, which will provide openings for an additional 200 smelter labourers. The same company reports that 200 additional miners could be absorbed immediately if available. Field reports indicate that by October, 400 smelter workers and 800 miners will be required. Increased employment in this basic industry is seriously handicapped by the shortage of living accommodation in Sudbury. According to local office reports, an estimated 200 to 300 housing units, at least, are needed in this city. In the male labour field, demand is heaviest for the following types of worker: loggers, carpenters, miners, and heavy labourers. Demand for female workers is light, except in the service worker category.

Toronto

The number of unplaced applicants showed little change during the month of August and unfilled vacancies increased only slightly in the same period. This general lack of improvement in employment conditions may be attributed to the many strikes directly and indirectly affecting manufacturing plants here. In the heavy industry group, labour demand is light, and lay-offs have taken place in a number of plants. In the light manufacturing field, demand continues to be strong for all types of worker. The labour shortage here has been alleviated to some extent by the movement of workers who are on strike, or laid off because of strikes, to plants not affected by labour disputes. Transportation appears to be more active of late and the number of applicants for truck driving jobs has been considerably reduced. Despite current shortages of building materials, the demand for construction workers by far exceeds supply. Labour turnover among service workers (domestic servants, hotel and restaurant workers, janitors, etc.) is high; consequently labour demand remains strong.

Welland

With the canning season now in full swing, fruit and vegetable pickers are desperately needed to assure deliveries of supplies to canning factories. Local textile manufacturers are still in dire need of skilled operators. Orders have been placed in clearance for card tenders, roving frame tenders, drawing tenders, spinners and weavers, but so far, results have been far from satisfactory. At present, labour requirements of the heavy iron and steel industry are being met. Over 1,000 employees of the Electro Metallurgical Company of Canada, Limited, have been on strike since July 8 and no settlement of the labour dispute appears imminent. The rubber manufacturing industry is showing increased activity and labour demand has been correspondingly greater of late. Construction work in this area has slowed down perceptibly, due to lack of building materials. Orders placed for construction labourers are being filled. In the male labour field, demand is heaviest for the following types of worker: skilled and semi-skilled textile workers, machinists, and heavy labourers. Among female workers, domestic servants, waitresses, skilled textile workers, and canning factory workers are in short supply.

Item	Trail			Vancouver				Victoria		
	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945	Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945		Aug. 1946	July 1946	July 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced apps. per 1000 employed).....	30	39	23	91	101	28		44	46	12
Jobs:										
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	258	130	204	5,350	5,429	9,729	1,089	869	1,102	
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	492	151	-	11,198	14,212	-	2,179	2,058	
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	622	355	-	16,627	23,941	-	3,048	3,160	
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	346	150	-	5,037	9,382	-	1,211	1,459	
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	73	97	-	8,633	3,563	-	789	398	
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	258	258	168	6,501	5,350	8,990	1,298	1,089	1,133	
Workers:										
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	348	432	265	18,305	20,720	6,425	2,050	2,592	864	
% female.....	52.9	54.2	37.4	15.8	15.6	25.8	16.0	17.9	48.1	
% veterans.....	22.4	15.7	-	37.4	36.9	-	38.9	38.4	-	
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more..	13.5	7.9	-	25.4	25.4	-	27.9	21.9	-	
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	263	380	168	17,289	19,503	3,952	2,009	2,543	737	
Claimants.....	202	237	-	10,282	12,594	-	1,177	1,427	-	
% under 20 years.....	1.5	0.9	-	3.5	3.0	-	1.9	2.4	-	
% 20 - 45 "	55.0	58.6	-	50.8	52.0	-	31.7	32.8	-	
% 45 - 60 "	16.3	12.7	-	31.2	31.7	-	36.9	20.1	-	
% over 60 "	27.2	27.8	-	14.5	13.3	-	29.5	44.7	-	
Non-claimants.....	61	143	-	7,007	6,909	-	832	1,116	-	
% under 20 years.....	59.0	45.4	-	13.5	14.4	-	29.7	24.2	-	
% 20 - 45 "	32.8	37.8	-	61.1	61.1	-	42.5	50.6	-	
% 45 - 60 "	4.9	5.6	-	20.3	19.6	-	19.0	16.3	-	
% over 60 "	3.3	11.2	-	5.1	4.9	-	8.8	8.9	-	
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	428	245	-	13,090	15,012	-	1,606	1,798	
3 Total workers available in month.....	-	860	510	-	33,810	21,437	-	4,198	2,662	
% referred.....	-	47.0	28.6	-	23.3	59.7	-	31.4	64.4	
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	267	348	187	16,439	18,305	5,829	1,975	2,050	661	
Employment:										
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	8,900	8,900	8,200	181,000	178,500	212,900	44,700	44,900	54,500	
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	33.16	33.66	-	32.45	32.27	
Construction:										
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	-	7,515	-	2,584,455	1,623,054	-	320,573	220,866	

Trail

The number of unplaced applicants has decreased and the number of job vacancies have increased since the end of June. This change is evident in all labour categories, but the greatest change is in the construction trades. Carpenters and painters are most urgently required. The volume of construction is great, but there is an acute need for houses, with little prospect of immediate relief. Even single accommodation is difficult to obtain. Men in all trades and classes are being placed with Consolidated Mining and Smelting steadily. The labour agreement recently signed by the company will bring a shorter working week into effect. Consequently, the company is increasing the number of men employed. The heavy demand for bush workers and sawmill hands still exists. Bush teamsters are urgently required. The demand for women is not so heavy, but experienced single stenographers, bookkeepers, and tabulating machine operators are needed. Service workers make up the rest of the female requirements.

Vancouver

There has been a continued improvement in the number of vacancies and the number of applicants since the end of June. The seasonal employment peak is in August, but there is an upward trend in labour demand as reconversion progresses. Much expansion is contemplated by employers. However, few have commenced their programs because of existing material and equipment shortages. The demand for workers in the woods is still great. Booming grounds in the Fraser hold more logs at present than they have for a considerable time. There has been no settlement of the labour dispute in mining, but the foundry workers have returned to work. Canneries and packing houses are approaching the peak of their year's operations. The housing situation is grave, since few of the present homes under construction can be completed until more material is forthcoming. Orders for bricklayers, plasterers, and cement finishers are difficult to fill. Skilled carpenters are hard to obtain, and an endeavour is being made to fill orders through the unions. There has been a steady increase in factory jobs for single girls. In the clerical occupations, the supply of junior office clerks, experienced stenographers and typists is not sufficient to meet present needs.

Victoria

The employment situation in Victoria continues to improve, with the number of vacancies increasing and the number of applicants decreasing. Orders for loggers are numerous but experienced men are scarce. The construction industry has an equally heavy demand for labour. This demand may diminish greatly in the near future if building materials do not become available, in which case a considerable number of tradesmen and labourers will be forced back into the labour market. The shortage of housing accommodation remains serious. Eleven hundred applications were received for ninety low rental homes for ex-servicemen that have just been completed. Lay-offs have been the order of the day in shipbuilding. There are many applicants available for work in this industry, but practically no orders on file. A \$5 million contract to build 46 barges for the French government was cancelled by the Victoria Machinery Depot Company Limited because of general wage increases in British Columbia shipyards. A new contract for the construction of five vessels of the same design is being completed.

Section 3:—AN EVALUATION OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN SYDNEY, NOVA SCOTIA

The labour market in the Sydney area is characterized by serious unemployment. Almost half the unemployed are veterans. There is small hope of any improvement in the situation in the near future, and considerable agitation has been voiced, asking that the Federal and Provincial governments provide some work program to act as a temporary relief.

Table I—Labour Demand and Supply in Sydney
(Source: U.I.C. 757 and 759)

Date	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
May 25, 1945.....	674	—	—	556	—	—
Aug. 31, 1945.....	784	80	864	694	345	1,039
May 30, 1946.....	358	72	430	4,035	524	4,559
June 27, 1946.....	317	57	374	3,522	519	4,041
July 25, 1946.....	262	40	302	3,793	465	4,258
Aug. 8, 1946.....	370	36	406	3,740	486	4,226
Aug. 22, 1946.....	346	47	393	3,774	483	4,257
Aug. 29, 1946x.....	366	36	402	3,698	513	4,211

x Figures from the Advance Report on Labour Demand and Supply.

Background

There are two interdependent industries of prime importance in Sydney, - coal, and iron and steel, which set the economic pace for the community. These two grew up in the "wheat boom" period of the turn of the century when steel rails and rolling stock for railways, and coal and heavy steel products for the rapidly expanding manufacturing industries of Ontario and Quebec were in heavy demand. When the years following 1918 brought shifts in demand from coal to new power sources, shifts in demand for steel from heavy forms to lighter materials and structural steels, and stiff competition from new producing areas, the coal and the iron and steel industries both found themselves in an increasingly precarious position.

The sensitivity of both coal, and iron and steel to cyclical fluctuations would always make Sydney a danger area in periods of business depression. But the fact of special disadvantages in the operations of the Sydney industries makes the picture that much blacker in a period of low demand. Nor do periods of business prosperity alleviate the problems of these industries.

Table II, giving the distribution of the labour force in Sydney and Glace Bay in 1941, clearly shows the lack of diversification in the economy. There are no alternative occupations for men who are thrown out of work in the mining and steel industries. The entire community, dependent directly or indirectly on the mining and steel plant payrolls, suffers unless the labour surplus can be absorbed by the coal and steel industries.

Table II—Distribution of Persons Gainfully Occupied in Sydney and Glace Bay
(Source: 1941 Decennial Census)

Industry	Male	Percentage Distribution	Female	Percentage Distribution
All industries (not including active service).....	13,719	100.0	3,459	100.0
Agriculture, fishing, forestry, trapping.....	122	.9	3	.1
Coal mining.....	3,933	28.7	13	.4
Other mining.....	10	.1	—	—
Manufacturing.....	4,553	33.2	147	4.2
Iron and its products.....	4,074	29.7	67	2.0
Other manufacturing.....	479	3.5	80	2.2
Construction.....	883	6.4	1	—
Transportation and communication	1,030	7.5	86	2.5
Trade.....	1,723	12.6	746	21.5
Service.....	965	7.0	2,352	68.0
Not stated.....	500	3.6	111	3.3

Wartime Change

During the war, industrial expansion in Sydney took the form of more intensive utilization of existing production facilities, together with some modernization of, and additions to the iron and steel making plant. No new industry was built up; coal and steel continued to dominate the scene. Employment grew by 19 per cent between September 1939 and September 1945. The heaviest growth of employment was evidenced in the steel industry; employment in the coal mines declined during the period. For example, the number of men employed by two major collieries was 10,867 in May of 1938. It had dropped to 9,507 by May, 1945, although 1941 had shown an increase over the pre-war figure.

Since the problems encountered during the war period were merely the long run problems of coal, and iron and steel in the area, it would be best to look at the situation in each of these industries. The difficulties of the industries may be set down as high cost of production, high cost of transportation to markets, and limited markets. The latter is, of course, of little concern during a period of heavy demand, but will be of importance when conditions return to normal.

The Coal Industry

The Sydney coal field, the most important in present production and future prospects of the Nova Scotia fields, has certain disadvantages. The removal of the easily accessible coal has necessitated development through an extension of submarine workings. As a result, the cost of upkeep of the workings, of ventilation, of transporting men and materials to and from the working face, make the operation of the mines increasingly expensive. Therefore it has always been imperative that the market for the output of coal be large enough to permit sizeable and economic production to bear the heavy overhead costs.

The mines, most of which are operated by the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation, produce for local markets and for the central Canadian market. The market in Nova Scotia is limited; the amount of coal used by the Sydney steel plant can be increased very little. In central Canada, Sydney coal meets competition from low cost American coal. Expanding markets, therefore, depend on lower cost production.

Productivity per man day is low in Nova Scotian mines compared to productivity in the average American mine. Though productivity per man day increased from an average of 1.8 tons in the years 1900-1905 to 2.2 tons in 1923-1940 through improved mining technique and greater mechanization of the operations, the average American production advanced to over 5 tons per man day. The high labour cost together with low output and heavy transportation costs have made the industry dependent on federal aid to maintain its place in the Canadian market. This aid has included a transportation subvention to overcome the freight charges on coal moving to Ontario and Quebec, a subsidy paid on all Canadian coal converted into coke for smelting purposes, and various import duties on coal entering Canada from foreign sources.

During the war, due to unprecedented need, the distribution of coal in Canada and the United States was zoned so that coal went to the nearest consumer, irrespective of nationality. The Canadian import duties on coal were modified and subsidies were paid on both imported and domestic coal. Market conditions have been abnormal and will remain so for some time until the supply of coal again begins to meet demand.

During the war there was a decline in production from the Sydney mines. A table published in the Report on Minerals of the Nova Scotia Royal Commission on Provincial Development and Rehabilitation is of interest.

Table III—Annual and Daily Output of Coal per Employee and per Miner,
Dominion Coal Company (from figures obtained from the Company)

Year	Output (000's tons)	Average Working Force	Miners only (including other mining labour)	Output per employee	Output per miner	Output per employee per day	Output per miner per day
1929....	3,970	—	2,608	—	1,522	—	—
1934....	3,652	7,982	2,492	457	1,465	2.14	6.8
1936....	3,835	8,513	2,712	474	1,414	2.30	6.9
1937....	4,063	8,758	2,759	464	1,473	2.08	6.6
1939....	4,016	8,701	2,740	461	1,465	2.17	6.9
1940....	4,387	8,593	2,617	510	1,676	2.13	7.0
1941....	3,859	8,375	2,289	461	1,686	1.76	6.4
1942....	3,831	8,337	2,342	459	1,636	1.79	6.4
1943....	3,143	8,003	1,966	394	1,604	1.47	6.0

It should be noticed that although the output per employee fell and the labour cost rose, the output per miner increased from 1934 to 1943. The working force consists of day men and of miners and other labour, working with the miners at the coal face. The day men who have to do with the transportation in the mine and the disposal of coal on the surface are paid by the day. The miners are paid by tonnage or piece contract. The gross disproportion of producers to non-producers in the working force, which has always been one of the fundamental disadvantages of the mines, was aggravated during the war. There was a heavy enlistment of face miners, whose place was not readily filled. The nature of the transportation system in the mines has not permitted much reduction in day men as the amount of coal mined, decreased.

Among the miners themselves, there were certain forces causing decreased production. These forces were the loss of younger skilled men to the armed forces, absenteeism, reluctance of men to work beyond a certain point because of the incidence of the income tax, and labour disputes.

There have been troublesome labour-management relations for many years in the coal industry. The United Mine Workers, which displaced the old Provincial Workmen's Association before the end of the first World War, has always pressed the question of wage rates above all else. There has been some discussion whether the Union is wise to adopt the same high wage demand in Cape Breton mines as elsewhere on the continent. It is maintained that for Nova Scotian coal, demand is elastic with price changes, it being easy to substitute coal from other regions. In the interest of workers and company, wage policy should therefore be moderate. Where labour costs are a heavy proportion of cost of production, as in the mining industry, high labour cost may mean the abandonment of marginal mines. Thus increased payments to the individual may involve decreased payments to the group through the release of a certain number of the workers from the labour force.

The working conditions and the living conditions in these coal mining towns are not conducive to happy labour relations. Labour is now in a strong bargaining position, when demand for the product is exceptionally high. The Union contract, covering some 13,000 Nova Scotian and New Brunswick coal miners, expires at the end of January, 1947. In a Sydney newspaper it is stated that

that the miners will ask for payments on a level with payments received by western Canadian mine workers. They are "no longer content with being regarded as the poor relations of the rest of Canada."

The interests of labour, management, and government lie in more efficient production. Reduction of the proportion of miners to day men, increased mechanization, better labour-management relations, are all necessary. Plans for the future still await the publication of the Report of the Royal Commission on Coal. However, some steps are being taken to increase production. A special training school to train men for their first class miner's papers in a shortened length of time has been set up, and management is considering plans for further mechanization.

The Steel Industry

The Sydney steel plant, operated by the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation, is among the three largest iron and steel producers in Canada. These companies produce in normal times for a limited market which does not engage their whole capacity. Competition has become a matter of raw materials, labour, management and distance from markets, with Sydney particularly handicapped by the first and the last factors. Low production costs are needed for Sydney to compete in the Canadian market because of high transportation costs on its products. Coal from the Sydney mines, and iron ore and limestone from Newfoundland are the raw materials of production, but are not first grade metallurgically. They must be treated before they can be used. Thus, the cost of raw material beneficiation contributes to making production costs high.

There are other factors which make the Sydney operations not so profitable as could be expected. Primary steel products are limited in variety. Plant facilities are out of date and limited. The markets for steel products in the Maritimes is limited; the subsidiary plants are located in Ontario and Quebec.

During the war, employment in the steel plant expanded, reaching a peak at the end of 1942. Production costs mounted. The fleet of ore and coal carriers lost due to enemy action was replaced by small unsuitable vessels costly to operate. It was necessary in some cases to obtain ore and limestone from sources in Canada, which were expensive. Wage rates, both in the iron ore field in Newfoundland and in the plant in Sydney, increased. The labour problem was magnified and general civilian market contacts largely disintegrated. The one bright spot was the increased iron and steel making capacity, and the improved metallurgical operations.

Soon after the end of the war the company took steps to regain its pre-war export business and obtained contracts in the United Kingdom. But a large number of the contracts had to be cancelled as it was seen that full Canadian steel production was needed for domestic consumption.

The United Steel Workers organized the Sydney local in 1936. Not until 1940 when the pressure of war orders necessitated a more amicable labour-management relationship was a collective agreement signed. Union policy, part of the overall policy for Canada, consciously seeks a uniform worker classification and uniform rates with the other Canadian steel plants. Demands for wage increases have always been met by the plea of inability to pay, which the Union does not accept as a true condition.

The present strike in the steel plant at Sydney is part of the action of the United Steel Workers against Canada's three basic steel mills. The Union desires union security, two weeks vacation with pay, a forty hour week, increased wages, a minimum of 84 cents an hour for common labour, and an uniform common labour rate throughout the industry. The plant has closed and only union maintenance men are on duty, keeping the furnaces hot.

Present Labour Demand and Supply

Present possibilities of employing the excess labour are limited. There is a surplus of labour in all occupations, with demand largely centred in the coal mining industry. Here the demand is for skilled miners, remaining steadily at about two hundred first class miners. Men who are discharged from the forces are the only immediate source of trained miners. Many of them, however, show no interest in returning to their former employment.

There has been a boom in the construction industry in spite of the serious shortage of many building materials. Building permits have been issued in the city of Sydney up to the value of \$754,735 for the first six months of 1946, compared with \$216,020 for the same period in 1945. A new bus terminal, which will cost \$300,000 is being built. Municipal programs of street repair and sewerage, and highway construction projects are employing quite a number of the unemployed. Men on strike at the steel plant are accepting casual employment, but it is difficult to tell how many men are so involved. The acute shortage of cement has greatly curtailed all new construction activity.

Future Prospects

Employment in the Sydney area has been relatively stable, but no indication has been shown of any ability to absorb the unemployed labour. Employment in the primary industries, fishing, agriculture, forestry, is limited. There is an opportunity for experienced men in the coal mines, but employment opportunities in the future are not promising. Technical and other improvements in coal and steel would not call for additional labour, but would simply ensure steady employment for those already at work. The industries might be better able to meet the severe competition of the period when demand for their products diminishes and fewer men would be released from employment.

An increase in the facilities of the steel plant, such as the hot rolled strip mill which has been the subject of some investigation, would employ additional labour. Labour could be employed in small industries which might be induced to grow up around the basic steel plant, but local demand for consumer goods is small, and it would be difficult to market products competitively in central Canada. Eventually, a certain portion of the surplus labour must be retrained and relocated. Public work programs may be necessary to ease the process of redirection.

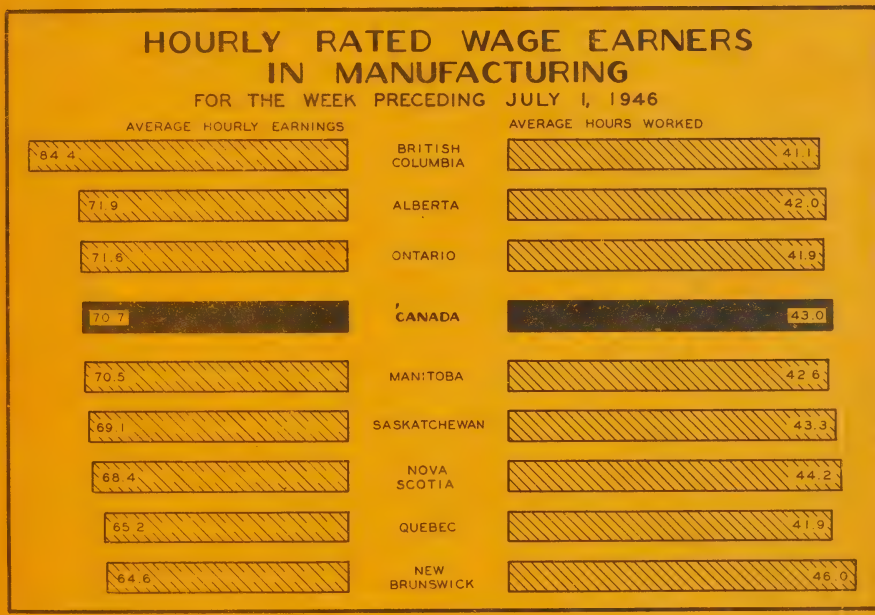
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CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

SEPTEMBER, 1946



RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH
DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

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Unplaced Applicants in Canada, registered at National Employment Service offices totalled 142,000 at October 10, 1946. September saw a decline of 2,000, against a 16,000 drop in both July and August. A decrease of 300 took place in the last week of September, and another 400 drop in the first week of October. No substantial change was evident during the month. Settlement of the basic steel strike should be a stabilizing influence on current unsettled labour relations and the consequent material bottlenecks and temporary lay-offs.

Unfilled Vacancies in Canada jumped 20,000 in September to reach the 143,000 mark at October 10, 1946. August saw a rise of 11,000. Marked seasonal expansion in logging and pulpwood operations and a normal seasonal upswing in food processing and packing plants boosted reported job openings. The September uptrend counteracted clouded employment prospects in strikebound key industries, and the tightened material supply situation.

Unplaced Ex-servicemen in Canada showed a 4,000 drop in September, totalling 45,000 at the end of the month. Jobless veterans out of work 15 days or more hit the 1946 low of 30,000 at September 30, against 33,000 at August 31. Those unplaced 15 days or more constituted 67.5 per cent of all jobless veterans at September 30, compared to 67.6 per cent at the end of August. Unplaced ex-servicemen constituted 32 per cent of total unplaced applicants in Canada, compared with 34 per cent at the end of the previous month.

Discharges of Service Personnel in September of this year fell to the lowest level since August, 1945, numbering 12,000 by September 30, a 6,000 drop from the previous month. This brings total discharges since V-J day up to the 672,000 mark. October and November forecasts limit releases from the armed forces to from 5,000 - 6,000 each month.

A Classification of Canadian Labour Market Areas at September 26, 1946, places two areas in the Acute unemployment category, corresponding to conditions in the Mid-Thirties, and three other areas in the Serious unemployment group, tallying with 1939 labour market conditions. The relative employment status of Fort Erie changed from Serious to Moderate during the month, corresponding to 1941 employment conditions. New Glasgow-Fictou and Valleyfield, consistent with the trend of the past four months, remain in the Serious unemployment category.

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PART I

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Section I:--DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

Review of Housing Conditions

Spotlight on the housing program--The growing clamour for homes has centred the spotlight on the progress of house-building throughout the country. Governmental machinery set up to meet the housing deficit is the target for general attack -- one pressure group demanding removal of existing restrictions, the other crying for greater control.

Heavy back-log of deferred construction orders--The present shortage of houses stems from several causes. House-building was at a low level in the decade prior to the war because of depressed economic conditions. Overcrowding and slums marked the housing scene. During the war years concentration of materials and labour on war needs kept house-building at a minimum. At the same time, large-scale migration of war-workers to cities and towns caused acute congestion in many areas.

War's end sees more complex situation--but more men and materials--The end of the war released men and materials; it also intensified the problem. Discharges of servicemen now have passed the 671,000 mark. Of these more than 30,000 had married while overseas, and hundreds of thousands of others either intended to marry upon their return, or were coming back to wives living with relatives in their absence. Marriage and birth rates are up, but the average family is smaller so that more housing per thousand population is required. Furthermore, income levels have risen substantially during the war and some of the economic reasons for doubling-up that existed in the depression years have disappeared.

Wartime Housing Limited-low rental housing--Wartime Housing Limited is the federal agency which takes an active building part in the housing field. At the request of municipalities it will build low-rental housing projects for veterans, -- rentals ranging from \$22.00 to \$30.00 per month. A standard agreement has been developed whereby the municipality supplies improved lots for the project at a cost of \$1.00 each, and agrees to accept in lieu of taxes from \$24.00 to \$30.00 per house per year. At the end of a determined period, the municipality may buy the houses for \$1,000 each. Municipalities claim that these units are deficit housing. The yearly payments in lieu of taxes do not cover their cost of schooling and other services; the contract now may be re-negotiated to enable them to levy normal additional taxes.

Aim for 11,000 rental units in 1946—Wartime Housing Limited was established in 1941 to provide accommodation for war workers. By the end of 1943, 15,627 workers' homes had been built. In 1944 it started to build rental housing for veterans and put up 1,591 units during the year. In the second half of 1945 a program of 6,500 units was undertaken of which only 300 were finished because of the late start. A target of 4,700 units for veterans was set for 1946, which added to the 6,200 carry-over, allows for the completion of almost 11,000 rental units in 1946.

From January to August, 4,656 dwelling units were completed. Completions will mount rapidly toward the end of the season since these projects are built on a mass production basis and units are finished in blocks rather than individually.

Under the Veterans' Land Act, 1,341 dwelling units were built in 1945 and the first seven months of 1946.

Central Mortgage and Housing Corp.— administers National Housing Act— The National Housing Act of 1944 authorized the Government to finance and promote the construction of new housing. Its operations are chiefly commercial, dealing in long term loans. Loans up to \$6,400 to home owners or builders are sponsored jointly by the government (25 per cent) and by private lending institutions -- losses shared proportionately; direct government advances are available to limited dividend corporations up to 90 per cent of the lending value of a low-rental project. The Integrated Housing Plan, under the Act, stimulates projects of houses for sale by private builders. In December 1945, the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation was created to administer the National Housing Act, responsibility being transferred from the Minister of Finance in view of the enlarged scope of operations. The Corporation also provides discounting facilities for the loan and mortgage companies.

Table I—Loans Under the National Housing Act, 1944

Source: Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Period	No. of Loans	Units	Value
First six months 1945 (1).....	2,440	2,700	\$11,289,100
Second " " "	2,700	3,000	\$12,542,700
First " " 1946	4,100	4,750	\$21,369,300
July " "	860	880	\$ 4,129,600
August(Prelim.) " "	720	770	\$ 3,548,300

(1) No loans were made in January 1945, under the National Housing Act, 1944.

Emergency Shelter Regulations came into force in December 1944 to help municipalities with the problem of temporary accommodation. Surplus government buildings and financial assistance were made available. Administration was transferred from the Wartime Prices and Trade Board to the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation in December 1945. During 1945, 2,400 temporary units were provided and by August, 1946, creation of 2,000 additional units had been arranged.

Housing Enterprises of Canada, Limited - 3,600 unit target--Under the provisions of the National Housing Act, all life insurance companies in Canada formed a holding company, Housing Enterprises of Canada, Ltd. This company was designed to oversee the building of 10,000 rental housing units over a period of two years -- rentals to range from \$39.50 to \$45.00 per month. The objective for 1946 is 35 projects involving 3,600 units. Of these, 28 projects involving 2,927 units have been approved and are under construction.

Priority rating and veterans' preference--Construction control was lifted in December, 1945. A priorities rating was established in March, 1946, to channel building materials in short supply into the housing field. Priorities are limited to government or government-approved housing -- War-time Housing, Veterans' Land Act, Housing Enterprises, Emergency Shelter, etc. -- all with veterans' preference and controlled in respect to sale price or rental. Veteran-owned homes, built independently of these organizations, come under priority when reaching 50 per cent completion.

Material quotas set by W.P.T.B.--Building materials are distributed to all areas on a quota basis set up by the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. Quotas are based on purchases during 1941, although 1941 war plant activity may somewhat distort present requirements in certain areas.

Municipal control can offset federal priority rating--At the end of March, municipal control of non-essential or industrial construction came into force. This order has been the object of heavy criticism, but the Government maintains that municipal authorities are best able to determine the essentiality of construction in their own districts. Thus government-sponsored housing for veterans will receive materials priority in all districts - but as municipal authorities are responsible for obtaining such housing, if they instead give priority to industrial and commercial construction, the benefit of the federal priority rating is nullified.

Department of Reconstruction given Federal housing responsibility--At the end of April, the functions of the Department of Finance in the housing field were transferred to the Department of Reconstruction. All federal housing activities have been centralized and co-ordinated under the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Provinces, municipalities, and persons interested in housing, now deal with the one agency. Regional and branch offices now are decentralized and facilitate loan approvals.

An executive Committee on building materials was set up at this time to co-ordinate the increased supply of building materials with the construction industry. The Committee deals with the reclamation of materials and co-ordination of priorities and controls. It is composed of the Priorities Officer, the Co-ordinator of Capital Goods and Equipment of the W.P.T.B., and the Co-ordinator of Housing.

To stimulate production of building materials where plant expansion is necessary, the government will consider meeting these costs as in war plant expansion. Also, double depreciation allowance has been extended to March 1948.

Federal machinery keyed to the times--It will be evident from the above that federal administrative machinery has been developed and adapted to meet changing conditions. The policy of the government is to promote housing by private initiative where possible. Every means is used to help private enterprise--financial assistance, stimulation of materials and

labour supply. Direct governmental activity in housing is limited to War-time Housing Limited, and units under the Veterans' Land Act and Emergency Shelter; Housing Enterprises Limited is also closely associated with governmental activity.

Building costs climbing—The enabling machinery for housing progress is extensive, but one leakage is apt to arise out of the municipal responsibility for government projects. When municipalities are not willing to sponsor these, private construction must meet the need, and in many cases the high cost of building (varying between 147 and 162 per cent of 1939 levels) is prohibitive. The \$4,000 house of 1939 costs at least \$6,000 today and its price often eclipses this figure. This is hard on the married veteran who is faced with building beyond his means, as so little rental housing is available.

Municipal control side-tracks residential building—Municipal control of non-essential construction can be a barrier to the housing program, though such control is difficult to avoid. Civic authorities are more subject to pressure from important industrial concerns than are provincial or federal bodies. For example, it is extremely unlikely that a municipality will refuse a building permit for a \$6 million hotel, despite housing shortages, when if it does a neighbouring city will get the business instead. Employment rather than housing has become the criterion for granting permits. Where factory construction is involved, this is justifiable in areas of unemployment although much of the plant expansion is occurring in industries such as textiles, furniture and clothing, where the labour supply is not adequate even for existing factory requirements. Business construction is more difficult to justify. It is in this group that greatest expansion has occurred -- contracts awarded in the first eight months of 1946 show a 119 per cent jump over 1945. New stores, office buildings and hotels are little comfort to the thousands of homeless persons. A pyramid of responsibility might be more satisfactory. Municipal recommendations, particularly for commercial construction, could be screened by provincial authorities. Low-cost housing construction will otherwise tend to lose in competition with industrial and commercial projects, where profits are greater and the cost factor less important.

Table II — Contracts Awarded (in 000's)

Source: Maclean's Building Reports Limited.

	First 8 months			September			August		
	1946	1945	% Chg.	1946	1945	% Chg.	1946	1945	% Chg.
<u>Total</u>	\$	\$		\$	\$		\$		
<u>Construction</u>	459,000	266,000	+ 73	44,800	42,000	+ 7	50,400	40,500	+ 24
<u>Residential</u>	150,800	136,500	+ 10	13,500	19,400	- 30	19,200	20,200	- 5
<u>Business</u>	127,600	58,300	+119	16,400	8,100	+102	14,800	9,200	+ 61
<u>Industrial</u>	95,100	45,200	+110	10,400	9,600	+ 8	7,600	6,700	+ 13
<u>Engineering</u>	85,500	26,000	+229	4,500	4,900	- 8	8,800	4,400	+100

Strikebound supplier industries reduce flow of materials--During 1945, 48,000 dwelling units were completed. A target of 50,000 was set for 1946 in view of the supply of building materials and skilled labour. Progress to the end of July showed that 58 per cent of the 1945 total had been completed in 58 per cent of the year. From then on the percentage of completions should top the corresponding percentage of the year, as units started later in the season will be completed in ever-increasing numbers. However, by the end of August -- 67 per cent of the year -- completions were estimated at only 64 per cent of the 1945 total. This drop is due almost entirely to the effect of strikes on building supplies, and might reduce 1946 completions to 42,000 - 47,000 units.

Production hard-hit by industrial tie-up--The drastic effect of strikes on a few selected construction material items is shown in the following table. The groups shown are those where production was hardest hit. Since July, output has undoubtedly declined even more sharply; in the iron soil pipe and nail groups particularly, the current supply situation is desperate. Most material bottlenecks may be traced to widespread strikes in the steel, electrical apparatus, and brass industries, and among metal and foundry workers, while high labour turnover curbs output in brickyards and clay products plants.

Table III--Decline in Production Through Strike Losses.

Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Commodities	May 1946	June 1946	July 1946
<u>Iron and Steel</u>			
Cast Iron Soil Pipe (Tons).....	2,290	1,810	1,590
Wire Nails and Spikes (Tons).....	6,630	5,700	3,620
<u>Plumbing and Heating</u>			
Cast Iron Radiators (sq. ft.).....	764,470	596,190	571,740
<u>Electrical Fixtures</u>			
Entrance Switches (No.).....	17,540	16,650	4,690
Double Braided wire (Ft.).....	117,890	149,300	44,560
Duplex receptacles (No.).....	176,410	158,490	48,720

Now that the steel strike has been settled, the supply situation will improve for nails, cast iron soil pipe and other steel products, although it will take three or four weeks. The steel settlement may set a pattern for general settlement of current disputes.

Inadequate housing complicates veteran problem--All-out effort in the building field is vital to meet the 1946 housing program. The need is urgent. The recent D.V.A. survey of veterans' housing requirements shows that 50 per cent of those completing the questionnaire were living in housekeeping rooms, and 55 per cent were sharing bath or shower facilities.

The ex-serviceman faces difficult enough adjustment problems without added handicaps of squalid rooming conditions or the necessity of living with relatives.

Social welfare tempered by housing conditions—Marriage mortality and juvenile delinquency flourish when home life is sordid and crowded. Countries such as Sweden, Denmark, and Holland have long realized that housing is a major part of an effective social welfare program, closely connected with health, crime, and general social conditions. In these countries, large government-sponsored apartment blocks and multiple dwelling units with surrounding gardens are constructed. Such projects conserve materials, labour and land, and can thus be built more economically than individual houses.

Section 2:—LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

Industrial Employment

Downward swing in employment at August 1—Following a steady upswing since March of this year, industrial employment declined by 8,328 persons during July. A contributing factor to this downward swing was the steel strike which commenced July 15. At August 1, 1946, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported a total of 1,840,172 male and female employees while at July 1 the total employment was 1,848,500. This represents a decrease of about 0.5 per cent. The index of employment, with 1926 as the base year, declined from 172.1 to 171.3, an increase of approximately 46 per cent over the 1939 index.

Advances in employment highest in British Columbia—The greatest regional advances were registered in British Columbia, where employment rose 7.5 points from the July index, and in the prairies where the gain was 2.9. A gain of 1.5 points was reported in Quebec while declines of 4.8 and 7.6 were recorded in Ontario and the Maritimes respectively.

Manufacturing employment declines during July—The downward movement in manufacturing employment at the beginning of August is indicative of the widespread effects of industrial labour disputes. From July 1 to August 1, employment declined by 1.7 per cent or a total of 16,510 persons. This decline was largely concentrated in the durable goods sector which includes the iron and steel, electrical apparatus and automotive industries, all of which were affected by strikes. Employment in manufacturing as a whole amounted to 966,261 at August 1 in comparison to 982,671 at July 1.

Non-manufacturing industries show employment upswing—Among the non-manufacturing industries increases were recorded in communications, construction and services. In the construction industry, a seasonal expansion of less than 5 per cent occurred indicating that material shortages were still restricting activity. This increase in construction activity was much less than the average pre-war seasonal gain. Logging employment showed a decrease of 4.9 per cent from the July 1 level but in view of the tremendous demand for forest products the situation looks very promising for the coming season.

Employment gains in service industry--In the service industries employment increased by 1.9 per cent during July. Although this was less than the pre-war seasonal increase, the number employed in the service industries is relatively high. The increase may be attributed to the fact that as the tourist season progressed, the staffs of hotels and restaurants were enlarged and laundries and dry-cleaning works were also busier.

Employment continues to increase in communications--In communications an increase of 3.2 per cent was recorded at August 1. This gain was somewhat greater than the average pre-war seasonal increase. A delay of construction and maintenance work during the war was the main contributing factor to this rise.

Industry analysis on basis of purpose classification--As manufacturing employment has been below the average pre-war seasonal level since the beginning of the year it seems advisable to examine the trends of the component industries. In order to accomplish this it is necessary to group the manufacturing industries on the basis of a purpose classification thus making possible a functional analysis.

As shown in Table I at the end of this section, employment in all manufacturing industries rose by 1.9 per cent from January 1, 1946 to August 1. This represents a decrease of 1.9 points from the July level. The greatest expansion since January 1 occurred in the consumer non-durable finished goods sector. The sharp decline reported in the producer goods industries is traceable to industrial disputes.

Expansion in consumer non-durables--Employment in the consumer non-durable finished goods industries has climbed 5.5 per cent since January, an increase of 1.7 over the July level and almost three times as great as that in the manufacturing group as a whole. In the food industry, substantial gains occurred from July to August while in the clothing group declines took place for the same period.

Since January the level of employment in the industries ancillary to consumer non-durables has risen by 2.1 per cent. The main part of this increase may be attributed to gains in newsprint production. A slight expansion has also occurred in the industries primary to food.

Material shortages hit clothing and textile industries--Since the beginning of the year shortages of material have been cutting into employment expansion in the industries primary to clothing and miscellaneous finished textiles. One large textile firm stated that the following factors were limiting employment and production:

- "(1) Acute shortage of skilled workers.
- (2) Shortages of basic raw materials.
- (3) The difficulty of initiating three shift operations, a necessity for efficient production.
- (4) High cost of equipment and machinery added to delay in procurement, is a retarding factor in the modernization program".

The housing problem has also been restricting employment expansion as an executive of one of the larger firms stated:

"The housing problem in Drummondville is the most important problem for obtaining maximum employment—employees leave at a rapid rate because they cannot find housing accommodation and they cannot afford to work where room accommodations and restaurants are expensive".

The strike of the Valleyfield textile workers also had an effect on this sector.

Decline in durable producer goods industries—During the first eight months of 1946, an employment decline of 1.4 per cent was recorded in the durable producer goods industries while from July to August a decrease of 2.9 per cent occurred. Recessions in this industry group may be attributed to industrial disputes.

From the beginning of the year until August, declines occurred in machinery building, integrated steel, chemicals and chemical products, construction materials and shipbuilding industries. Slight expansions occurred in non-ferrous metal products, petroleum products, miscellaneous products and aircraft industries during the same period, while pronounced gains were recorded in agricultural producer goods and saw-mills.

Unemployment

During September indications are that unemployment continued to decline but at a slower rate due to the strikes still in progress in many key industries. Unless current labour unrest is stabilized, future prospects of marked employment expansion are doubtful.

Slight decline in unplaced applicants during September—At October 3, there were 142,000 unplaced applicants as compared with 145,000 at August 29. This small decline of only 3,000 against a decline of 15,000 during August indicates the detrimental effects of current industrial tie-ups.

Decline in unplaced applicants highest among males—Once again unemployed men declined in number more than unemployed women as the present labour demands are chiefly for male workers. There were 111,000 male unplaced applicants at October 3, as compared with 114,000 at August 29—a monthly decline of 3,000. The drop during August was 12,000. Female unplaced applicants totalled 31,000 at October 3, representing very little change from the total registered at the end of August when a monthly decline of 4,000 female workers occurred.

The proportion of unreferrred applicants (workers registered as unplaced applicants who have not yet been referred to jobs) to all unplaced applicants remained the same as last month, 92.4 per cent, which is a decrease of 4.6 points since the end of March when the ratio was at its 1946 peak.

Heaviest unemployment load in Maritimes and Pacific—The regional burden of unemployment as related to the non-agricultural labour force still remains heaviest in the Maritimes and Pacific regions, which were not highly industrialized before the war. In Ontario and Quebec, where conversion to peace-time production was relatively easy, the burden of unemployment is lighter. In the Prairie region the unemployment load was also quite light. It should be noted that the incidence of unemployment is based upon the non-agricultural, rather than on the total labour force, since unplaced applicants are largely concentrated in the urban areas. Current ratios are based upon the D.B.S. Labour Force Survey of June 1, 1946. (See Table II at end of section).

Unfilled vacancies increase by 25,000 in September—At October 3, there were 96,000 unfilled vacancies for men and 46,000 for women; constituting a grand total of 142,000. This represents a rise of 25,000 over the number reported at the end of August. Of this increase in labour requirements, the major part was for men. The rise since August is probably due to the withdrawal of students from the labour market and to seasonal expansion in many industries. Labour demand for males rose in the pulpwood logging industry of Quebec, Ontario and the Prairies, in building and structural construction in Ontario and Quebec, in wholesale trade for all regions, in retail trade for all regions except the Maritimes and for agricultural work in the Maritimes, Ontario and Quebec. Demands for bushmen in British Columbia, especially skilled workers, is the highest it has been for some time. In the manufacturing group, current strikes have had an effect on the number of unfilled vacancies. The demand for female help in the domestic service field is apparent in all regions.

Matching of jobs and applicants difficult—At the end of September the majority of unfilled vacancies were for skilled and semi-skilled male workers, and secondly for unskilled male workers. Heaviest concentration of applicants was in the unskilled group.

As shown in Table III, jobs available for female workers in the professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service groups are slightly lower than the number of applicants. A heavy excess of male applicants exists in the same groups. There are few female applicants for skilled and unskilled work.

Further decline in live claims during August—A total of 61,822 workers signed the live unemployment register during the last six working days in August as compared with 68,535 in the same period of July. This means that about 43 per cent of all unplaced applicants were claiming the protection of unemployment insurance at the end of August, although not all of them would qualify for benefits. Some 43 per cent also claimed protection at the end of July. Male live claims fell from 48,864 to 44,224 during August while female claims dropped from 19,671 to 17,598. These declines continue to reflect the decreases in jobless workers although the proportionate decrease was somewhat lower during August. The normal seasonal increase in employment during the summer months probably accounted for the decrease. There were 6,995 claims disallowed during August, as compared with 9,221 in July. Claims disallowed because of loss of work due to labour disputes declined from 3,304 to 755; 2,314 were due to insufficient contributions, a decline from July, and 2,540 were for voluntarily leaving work without just cause, a rise from the previous month.

Benefit payments rise as re-employment decreases—During June, 1946, the payment of unemployment insurance benefits to a total of 45,963 workers was stopped while in May the total was 49,835. Re-employment was the main cause of termination of payment as 25,872 or 56 per cent of the workers concerned found new jobs. During the month of May 28,720 or 58 per cent of the workers were reported as re-employed. A slight decline in re-employment accounts for the decrease in termination of benefit payments during June.

Decrease in exhausted benefit rights in June—During the month of June, 6,810 persons exhausted their benefit rights. This represents 13 per cent of all terminations in comparison to 16 per cent in May and 7 per cent in January. In June, 22 per cent of all those whose benefit rights were exhausted were over 60 years of age while in May the total was 20 per cent; at the same time persons between 20 and 30 accounted for 26 per cent. Exhausted benefit rights for labourers amounted to 29 per cent during June in comparison to 31 per cent in May. The greatest percentage during June occurred in the manufacturing and mechanical occupations with a rate of 33 per cent.

Payrolls and Weekly Earnings

Payrolls and weekly earnings up slightly—Regardless of industrial disputes the index of payrolls rose from 141.9 at July 1 to 143.2 at August 1. At the same time the employment index declined by 0.8 points. The gain is chiefly attributable to a rise in employment in the construction industry where the demand is for highly-paid skilled workers, and to a general up-grading of wage-rates in all industries.

Per capita weekly earnings rose slightly from \$32.34 at July 1, to \$32.73 at August 1. Weekly earnings were then higher than both the August 1, 1944 level of \$31.66 and the August 1, 1945 figure of \$32.14. The same factors affecting the rise in payrolls apply to the increase in weekly earnings.

Hourly Earnings

Average hourly earnings remained unchanged at August 1, with a rate of 70 cents. Increases in rates of pay in the pulp and paper, lumber, non-ferrous metal, flour mill products, bread and bakery plants, metallic mining and animal products industries were largely offset by declines in the aircraft, shipbuilding, rubber, tobacco goods, and foundry and machine shop industries. Labour disputes were the main contributing factor to these declines.

Hours Worked

Average weekly hours in manufacturing rose from 42.4 at July 1 to 43.0 at August 1. This increase was probably due to settlement of some minor strikes and to the fact that the celebration of Ste. Jean Baptiste Day in Quebec influenced the figures for July 1. Labour disputes still affected the non-durable sector.

Strikes and Lock-Outs

Strike wave continues for fourth consecutive month—Strikes again continued at a high level during August and September although fewer man-working days were lost than in July. A total of 43 strikes were in progress during

August, one more than in July, while the total number of workers involved was 42,407, compared with 49,752 in the previous month. Man-working days lost amounted to 867,252, a substantial decrease from the 918,300 days lost during July. However, the situation still remained critical as strikes continued amongst rubber workers, motor vehicle workers, electrical apparatus workers, steel workers, textile workers and chemical workers. In the steel strike alone, some 10,000 workers were involved with a time loss of 255,000 man-working days while the rubber industry recorded 9,000 workers on strike and a loss of 200,000 man-working days. In 15 of those beginning during the month, settlement was reached or the strikers returned to work pending settlement.

Strikes continue during September—During September the major strikes continued with the exception of the Valleyfield textile workers who returned to work on September 7 pending settlement. This strike comprised a total of 2,750 workers with 70,000 man-working days lost. At the time of writing, October 3, it has been announced that the steel strike is at an end. However, it will be from two to three weeks before the plants will be able to return to full production. The end of the steel strike is expected to boost employment in Canada and to the extent that it does the outlook for business and industry in the coming winter will be favourable.

Industrial Production

The index of industrial production dropped during August to reach 175.5 at August 31, as compared with 181.1 in the previous month and 226.5 a year ago.

The increase in industrial production during July was largely due to construction activity which experienced a gain of 33.0 points over the previous month * the gain being due to increased awards of business and engineering contracts, as the value of residential contracts declined. The manufacturing group as a whole dropped from 181.4 in June to 181.2 in July. However, substantial gains did occur in some manufactures, namely, newsprint with an increase from 131.3 to 143.2, wood and paper products from 128.0 to 143.2 and animal products from 106.9 to 113.9. The production of newsprint was 357,027 tons, a rise of nearly 31 per cent over the same month last year. Imports and exports also showed marked gains. In the case of imports the seasonally adjusted index increased from 166.0 at June 1 to 180.4 in July, while exports increased from 172.3 to 195.1. Mineral production declined from the June level.

During the month of August newsprint production reached 370,666 tons the largest output in history. Export trade rose in value to \$242,685,000, the highest monthly total since the end of the war. Recessions were recorded in flour-milling, mineral production and dairy products - the recession in the dairy products industry being greater than usual for the season.

During September the production decline of many industries reflected the tightening material supply situation and the coming seasonal slowdown. However, increases were recorded in construction, car-loadings and exports. At September 21, for the first time since October, 1929, car loadings on Canadian railways passed the 80,000 mark. Strike conditions were still curtailing

operations in the durable goods sector. Construction contracts awarded during September totalled \$44,816,400 compared to \$42,045,400 the same month last year and \$50,206,400 in August of this year. Quebec registered the most construction activity during the month.

Cost-of-Living Index

The cost-of-living index advanced from 125.1 to 125.6 at August 1. This exceeds the war-time high of 120.5 at August 1, 1945. The greatest part of this rise centred in the food and clothing groups with increases of 0.5 and 1.2 points respectively, while the home furnishings group experienced a rise of 1.9. The index fell to 125.5 at September 1 due to a seasonal decrease in prices of fresh vegetables.

Table I--Employment Trends by Major Industrial Group

(Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S.)

Industry	Jan. 1, 1946	August 1 1946	Change	
			No.	%
Consumer Non-Durable Finished Goods Industries	283,125	298,812	15,687	5.5
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Non-Durables	141,160	144,175	3,015	2.1
Consumer Durable Finished Goods Industries	117,228	122,170	4,942	4.2
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Durables	1,328	1,225	- 103	-7.8
Producer Goods Industries	380,315	375,603	-4,712	-1.4
Total Manufacturing	924,156	941,985	17,829	-1.9

Table II--Unplaced Applicants as a Percentage of Non-Agricultural
Labour Force by Region

(Source: Labour Force Survey, D.B.S. Labour Demand and Supply, Research
and Statistics Branch)

Region	November 17, 1945			February 23, 1946			October 3, 1946		
	Non-Agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Non-Agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Non-Agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%
Maritimes ..	303,000	12,000	4.0	310,000	22,000	7.1	324,000	21,000	6.5
Quebec ...	1,072,000	60,000	5.6	1,011,000	85,000	8.4	1,025,000	35,000	3.4
Ontario ...	1,300,000	54,000	4.2	1,282,000	80,000	6.2	1,332,000	49,000	3.7
Prairies ..	462,000	24,000	5.2	488,000	40,000	8.2	515,000	19,000	3.7
Pacific ...	322,000	19,000	5.9	344,000	33,000	9.6	356,000	18,000	5.1
Canada	3,459,000	169,000	4.9	3,435,000	260,000	7.6	3,552,000	142,000	4.0

Table III--Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants by Occupation
as at September 26, 1946

(Source: Revised Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch)

Occupational Group	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Canada.....	87,360	46,444	133,804	111,443	31,024	142,467
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service.	8,922	20,264	29,186	26,065	20,457	46,522
Skilled and Semi-skilled	48,729	9,715	58,444	35,878	4,889	40,767
Unskilled (a).....	29,709	16,465	46,174	49,500	5,678	55,178

(a) Includes farm hands and fishermen

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



SELECTED LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

1944 — 1945 — 1946

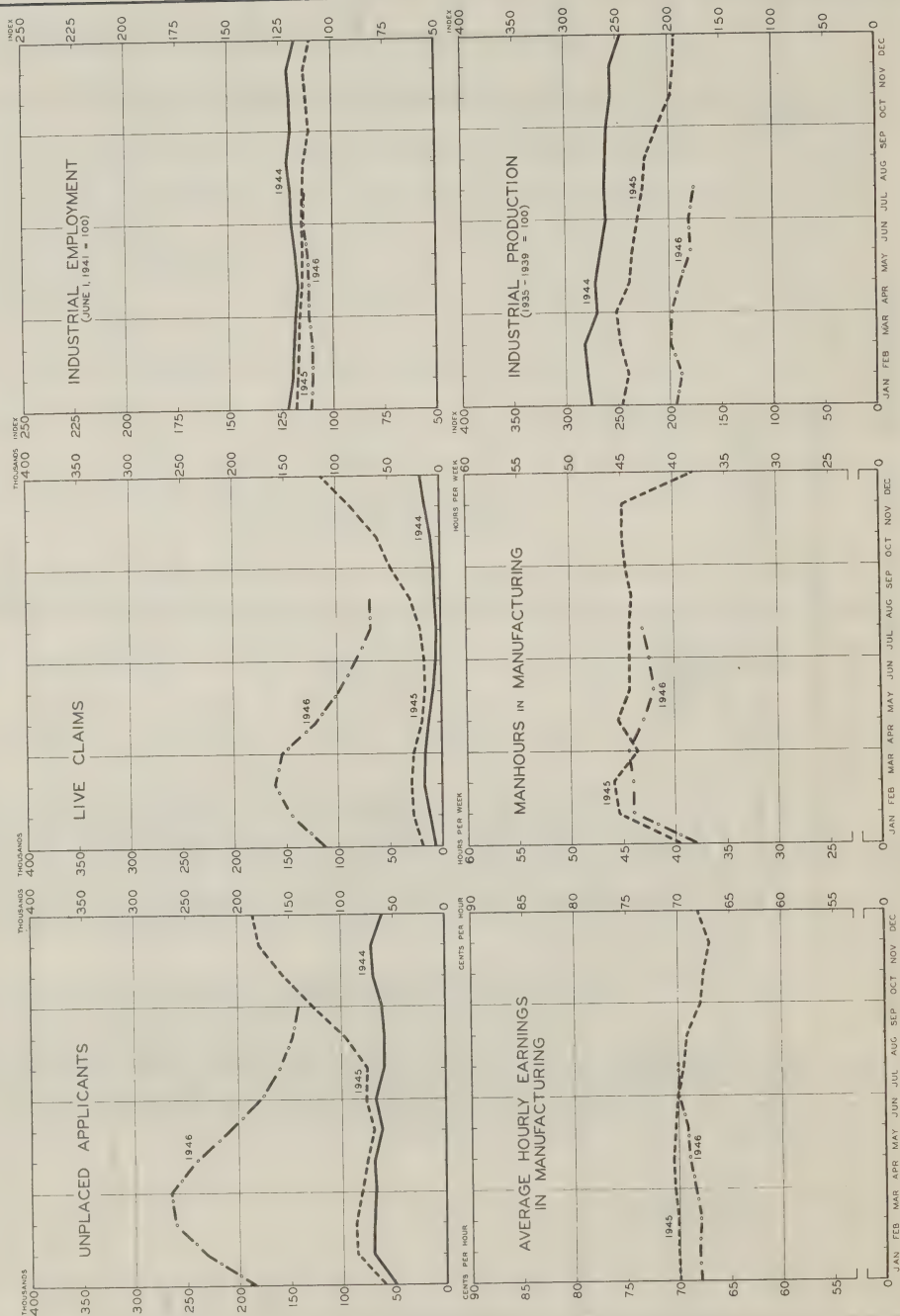


Table IV—Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note: All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision

Indicators	Aug. 1939	Aug. 1940	Aug. 1941	Aug. 1942	Aug. 1943	Aug. 1944	Aug. 1945	July 1946	Aug. 1946
Employment (a) -									
Index (Av. 1926 - 100) ...	117.5	127.2	158.5	175.1	183.0	181.5	172.8	172.1	171.3
(June 1, 1941 - 100)	—	—	104.8	115.8	121.0	120.3	114.5	114.0	113.5
Number (thousands).....	1,261	1,366	1,702	188.0	1,965	1,949	1,855	1,848	1,839
Female (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	428	423
Unemployment (b) -									
Total (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	59.8	75.9	176.7	160.3
Male (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	33.6	53.6	140.0	125.9
Female (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	26.2	22.3	36.7	34.4
Live Claims -									
Total (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	4.5	19.2	82.4	68.5
Male (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	3.3	10.7	60.2	48.8
Female (thousands).....	—	—	—	—	—	1.2	8.5	22.2	19.7
Earnings (a) -									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941 - 100)	—	—	107.0	130.8	146.3	147.4	142.4	141.9	143.2
Per capita weekly earnings	—	—	25.79	28.68	31.08	31.66	32.14	32.34	32.73
Cost of Living (c) -									
(Av. 1935-39 - 100).....	100.8	105.9	113.7	117.7	119.2	118.9	120.5	125.1	125.6
Man-hours and hourly									
earnings (a) -									
Average hours per week....	—	—	—	—	—	—	44.3	42.4	43.0
Average hourly earnings...	—	—	—	—	—	—	69.5	70.0	70.0
Strikes and lockouts (b) -									
Number.....	18	22	35	59	50	26	27	42	43
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	11.8	6.9	13.3	21.4	35.6	12.6	13.2	49.8	42.4
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	32.3	13.8	33.6	50.0	240.5	120.3	41.1	918.3	867.3
Industrial Production (d) -									
(Av. 1935-39 - 100)	109.0	139.3	183.0	232.5	276.8	263.5	226.5	181.1	175.5

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.C. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

Section 3:—OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

The best advertisement the National Employment Service has to offer the public is an efficient placement service. In this way only can it expect to receive the full co-operation of employers and employees. To reach this goal the staff of local employment offices must be trained in the most effective methods of performing their respective duties. Staff training is not to be considered an encroachment on an already full-day schedule but rather the most practical time-saving device in rendering efficient service to the employer, employee and the community. An effective placement is the result of a fully comprehensive interview, a detailed employers order, and a carefully selective placement. Each factor represents a highly specialized field, involving a continual development of new ideas and techniques. The purpose of staff training is to learn and keep abreast of the newest and most effective methods available.

Staff training may be undertaken on a centralized or decentralized basis—by the consolidation of several local office areas, or by the higher officials in the individual offices. A combination of the two methods is undoubtedly the most effective means. The National Employment Service provides a decentralized system of staff training. Two and one-half hours per week are devoted to current developments. In addition a recent meeting of the regional statisticians proved to be helpful in clarifying many of the problems confronting the various local offices.

The advantage offered by decentralized training is that it can be fitted in during lulls in office activity. Also it not only discloses the talents and weaknesses of the trainee to his supervisor but keeps the officials continually refreshed on the work. However, value of this type of training varies with the proficiency of the individual office officials and the extent to which an office receive up-to-date information on current developments. To overcome the latter weakness the United States Employment Service issues two informal bulletins: one, expressly for supervisors, describes the various training methods used and their effectiveness, and the other details the training materials used and the aids developed in the various offices.

Centralized training includes a larger area, consequently can use more elaborate training methods. The initial outlay to cover the time and travelling costs incurs considerably more expense, especially in widespread areas. The value of this training lies in the opportunity of learning from the highly

specialized experts in the field. In addition, the personal interchange of ideas proves to be both helpful and stimulating. Centralized training insures at least a minimum standard throughout the country. Also, it relieves the responsibility from the local office managers, many of whom, because they are over-burdened with work, are unable to give "staff training" the attention it deserves.

Vacancies Notified

(Reference Table I, Table II and Table VIII)

Sharp upswing in vacancies—The gradual dropping off in the number of vacancies notified throughout June and July reversed during August, bringing the current level of job reporting to almost the May peak. Current orders increased due to stepped-up seasonal activity, advance reporting of vacancies in logging camps, and replacement requirements necessitated by the return of students and teachers to school. Prolonged labour disturbances resulted in a decline of business activity throughout August, which in turn continued to curb anticipated employment expansion. Jobs currently available are mainly restricted to seasonal work, therefore do not offer permanent employment opportunities. Approximately 39,000 non-agricultural jobs were reported each week in August as compared with 35,000 in July.

Steady accumulation of jobs—The additional jobs reported during the current period resulted in an accumulation of work orders at employment offices, rather than an increased accession rate into industry. At the end of August, 11,000 more unfilled vacancies were available than four weeks earlier.

Manufacturing firm orders show sharp increase—Despite lengthy strikes in many basic industries, labour needs in manufacturing plants rose appreciably over the July figure. With unemployment constantly dwindling, employers are placing more orders with the Employment Service rather than contacting workers individually. Average weekly vacancies in manufacturing firms totalled 12,400 — a 15 per cent rise during the month. Sharp gains were reported in food processing, textile, pulp, paper, and leather manufacturing industries. The generally bountiful harvest yields indicate an exceptionally active food processing season this year but activity may be affected by the current curtailment of glass production. Recruiting of strikers has considerably eased the labour shortage in the food processing industry, but the need for skilled help remains acute.

Influx of orders for loggers—Logging operators are placing orders in advance at employment offices in anticipation of a peak production season during the coming winter. Approximately 6,000 vacancies were received each week in August, an increase of 70 per cent over the comparable figure for the previous month. The Employment Service will be unable to meet this demand with the limited sources of labour now available. Agricultural reports indicate an early completion of harvesting operations, which should release a considerable number of workers into the labour market shortly. A large proportion of the hiring in logging camps, however, has been accomplished by intensive recruiting campaigns undertaken by the individual companies. During 1946, over 70 per cent of the number entering the logging industry were hired outside of the Employment Service.

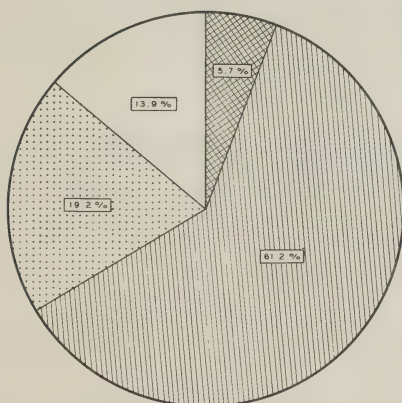
Retail establishments seek additional workers—Trade establishments increased their orders for workers by 20 per cent during August. The shortage of sales clerks was eased during the summer by the temporary employment of students whose withdrawal necessitated replacements. Also, additional temporary staff was required to meet the heightened trading activity of the harvest and school-opening

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF UNREFERRED APPLICANTS IN CANADA

AS AT SEPTEMBER 24, 1946

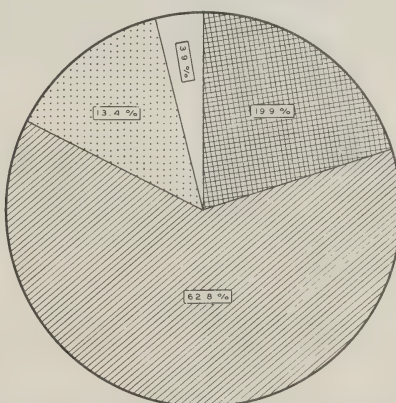
 UNDER 20 YEARS
  20 TO 44 YEARS
  45 TO 64 YEARS
  65 YEARS AND OVER

TOTAL CLAIMANTS



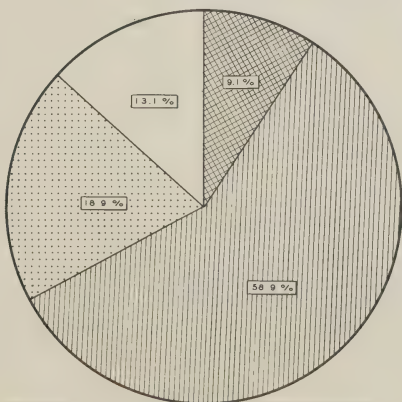
TOTAL UNREFERRED APPLICANTS 88,961

TOTAL NON-CLAIMANTS



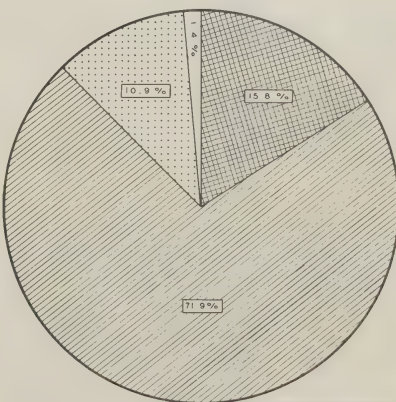
TOTAL UNREFERRED APPLICANTS 44,748

TOTAL MALE



TOTAL MALE UNREFERRED APPLICANTS 105,389

TOTAL FEMALE



TOTAL FEMALE UNREFERRED APPLICANTS 28,320

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season. Competent help in this field remains scarce, but many unqualified applicants are available for work in trading establishments.

Applicants Registered
(Reference - Table II and Table III)

Constant level of job-seekers maintained—The number of workers seeking employment at National Employment offices, totalling 36,000 per week, remained practically unchanged from the July figure. Two divergent factors tended to establish this constant level. On the one hand, lay-offs due to current strike action swelled the ranks of insured job-seekers. On the other hand, heavy labour demand in agriculture and the re-opening of schools, have drained off substantial numbers of workers from the labour market. Potential sources of labour supply now are reaching their lowest ebb. With demobilization virtually ended sources of labour supply are confined largely to those unemployed because of labour turnover or temporary lay-offs, and workers presently employed but who are endeavoring to better their present status through the National Employment Service.

Fewer applicants unplaced at end of month—Despite turbulent labour conditions, absorption of workers into the labour force continued throughout August. Unplaced applicants at the end of August were 10 per cent below the level reported four weeks earlier. The percentage decline was considerably greater among non-insured workers than among those not covered by unemployment insurance.

Several important facts are revealed in the survey of applicants unplaced at August 29.

(1) Male applicants declined more rapidly than female applicants during August. Non-insured applicants accounted largely for the drop among male applicants whereas the drop in female applicants was among the insured class.

(2) The proportion of unreferred applicants in the younger age group is steadily declining. Whereas at the beginning of August, 13 per cent of the unreferred applicants were under 20, by the end of August the corresponding percentage had dropped to 11.

(3) Reduction of unplaced applicants continues to be largely among the unskilled workers. Substantial declines were also reported in food, textile, and construction trades.

(4) Unemployment among women workers is relatively non-existent at this time. Unplaced applicants consist largely of persons displaced due to labour turnover or those remaining in the labour market to collect insurance benefits. The latter assumption is substantiated by the fact that the reduction of applicants has been confined largely to insured workers. On expiration of the insurance claims, many of these workers will permanently withdraw from the labour market.

Current vacancies reported exceed applications—Vacancies were in excess of applications during the current period, in contrast to the situation in June and July. For the first time demand in comparison to supply was proportionately equal among provinces. Dropping off of vacancies in Ontario tended to equalize the distribution of demand as compared with available supply.

Referrals

(Reference Table II and Table IX)

Referrals slacken due to limited labour supply—During the first few months of 1946 referral activity slackened because of the scarcity of job opportunities. Similarly referrals have shown a steady decline during the past few months, but at this time the deterrent factor is the shortage of available labour. Also, many applicants now are hesitant to accept a referral order into industries seriously troubled by labour unrest. Non-agricultural referrals totalled 25,000 a week during August. A further slump in referrals effected during August was reported in the service, construction and transportation manufacturing industries. This was offset somewhat by substantial gains in trade establishments, and textile and rubber plants.

Sharp drop in referrals effected per job available—Although available job opportunities increased substantially in August, referrals continued to drop. A time lag exists, however, between the receipt of the orders and the securing of suitable applicants. During August, 39 referrals were effected for every 100 jobs available, whereas in July the ratio was 45:100.

Placements

(Reference Table V and Table X)

Slight drop in placements—That there is a lull in placement activity at a time when jobs are plentiful deserves considerable thought from officers of the Employment Service. Are the sources of labour supply now available being fully utilized? Are the files, particularly those for veterans, up-to-date as to their present qualifications and experience? Have the better qualified, although presently employed, applicants been carefully considered in the light of alternative positions which they might fill? Has sufficient attention been paid to secondary occupations? Are attempts being continually made to encourage unqualified applicants to secure specialized training? Is close contact maintained with other employment offices and the possibility of clearing orders fully explored?

Average weekly placements in non-agricultural industries reached the 16,000 mark during August. Placements in finance and insurance establishments and service industries were sharply reduced. On the other hand, placements in textile manufacturing firms and retail stores rose appreciably. Ontario accounted largely for the decline in placement activity, with the drop confined almost entirely to male workers.

Referral to placement ratio: constant—The effective referral ratio during August remained unchanged from that reported in July. For every 100 referrals effected 65 placements were made.

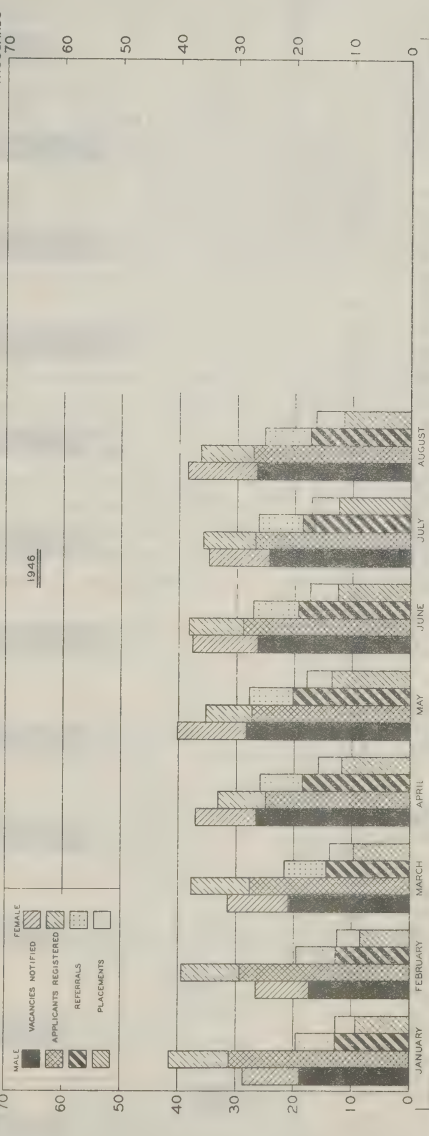
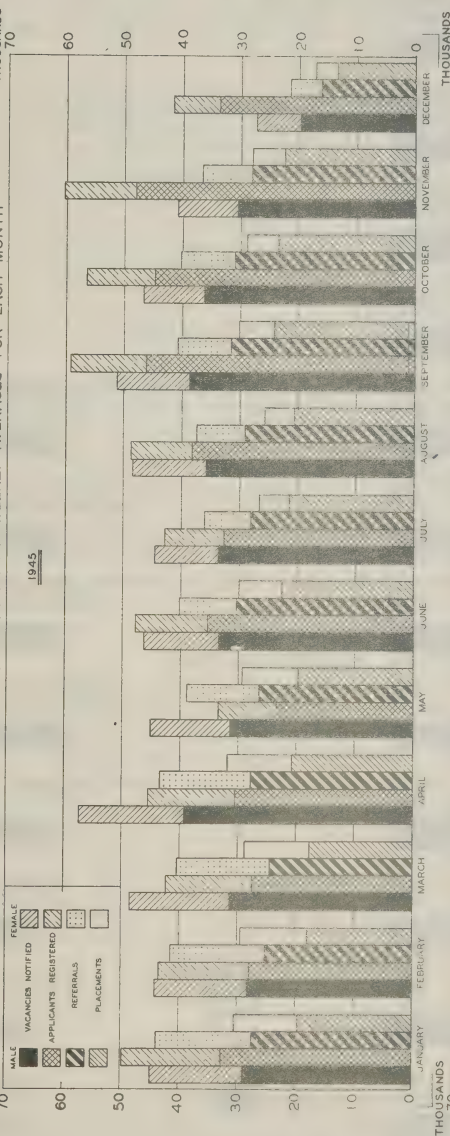
Executive and Professional Offices

(Reference Table VI)

Expanding services in executive and professional offices—Interest is steadily growing, both among employers and employees, in the relatively new Executive and Professional offices. All vacancies for executive and professional personnel have been consolidated into five offices throughout Canada. These offices report a steady flow of applicants now employed who are either endeavouring to better their present status or are seeking to change the locality of their

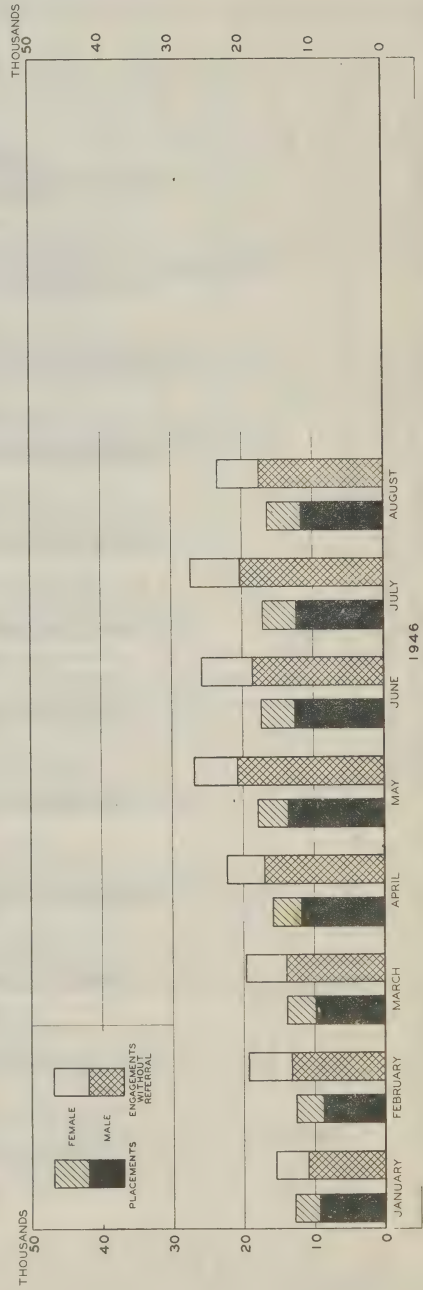
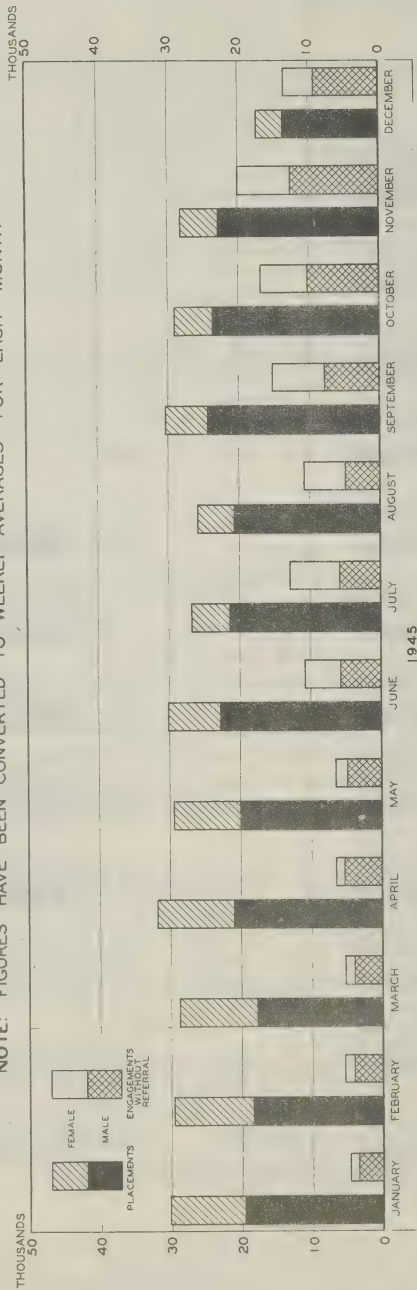
OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ON A COMPARATIVE MONTHLY BASIS

THOUSANDS	DATA EXCLUDE AGRICULTURE AND REPRESENT WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH	THOUSANDS
70		



PLACEMENTS BY THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AS COMPARED WITH WORKERS OBTAINING THEIR OWN JOBS

NOTE: FIGURES HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH



SOURCE: U.I.C. 751

work. Since a specified salary-rate qualifies a person to seek work in this office, many of the applicants are not correctly classified as executive or professional personnel. It is felt that education and experience should be the stipulating factors in determining the type of applicant; this division will accommodate.

More job seekers but fewer placements—The number of applicants entering Executive and Professional offices has steadily climbed, reaching the peak for 1946 during the current period. There were 346 applicants registered per week during August as compared with 279 in July. Placement activity however, declined with vacancies, referrals, and placements showing sharp drops during August. Average weekly vacancies notified totalled 154 while placements during the corresponding period numbered 33. At the end of August 1,307 vacancies remained unfilled while applications still on file totalled 2,430.

Special Placement of Handicapped Persons

Expanding placement activity continues—Placements of handicapped persons has maintained a fairly constant level since the spring upswing in seasonal activity. With the present shortage of raw materials and skilled labour and the general uneasy labour conditions, employers are reluctant to expand their permanent staff. Since the object in placement of handicapped workers is full-time employment, suitable jobs are difficult to secure. Placements reported in the period July 15 to August 14 totalled 1,590, an all-time high in placement activity for handicapped persons. A decline was reported in unplaced handicapped applicants; at August 15 there were 6,728 seeking employment;

Engagements Without Referral (Reference Table VII and Table XI)

Sharp decline in direct hiring—The abrupt reversal in the trend of expanding engagements without referral can be attributed largely to the current low level of unemployment among workers. In addition, the agricultural industry absorbed large numbers of workers during the harvest season. Direct hiring declined at a much greater rate than placements effected by the National Employment Service during the period. Engagements without referral in non-agricultural industries totalled 23,000 per week in August, a drop of 14 per cent during the month. Quebec and Ontario accounted largely for the decline. By industry, the shrinkage of engagements without referral was reflected in practically all industries with the exception of logging. Service, transportation, lumber products, pulp and paper industries, particularly, reported substantial reductions.

Separations (Reference Table XII)

Current lay-offs swell separation rate—The impact of strikes is readily seen in the sharp increase in the separation rate during August. Prolonged strike action which choked the supply of vital raw materials into numerous related industries brought a steady rise in lay-offs across the country. Separations in manufacturing industries jumped by more than 20 per cent; increases being especially great in pulp, paper, iron and steel and textile manufacturing industries. The release of farm-labour and students also stepped-up the separation rate at this time. The latter is reflected in the sharp rise in separations in trade, finance and insurance establishments. Average weekly separations in industries other than agriculture totalled 32,000 in August compared with 28,000 in July.

Table I—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified,
By Province and by Sex, August, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies		
	Male	Female	Total
CANADA.....	26,777	11,859	38,636
Maritime Provinces.....	1,400	804	2,204
Quebec.....	6,852	2,201	9,053
Ontario.....	11,059	5,187	16,246
Prairie Provinces.....	3,507	2,081	5,588
British Columbia.....	3,959	1,586	5,545

Table II—Unreferred Applicants by Age Group and by Sex,
As at August 29, 1946

(Source: Forms UIC 757-759)

Age Group	Male	Female	Total
TOTAL.....	105,389	28,320	133,709
Under 20.....	9,571	4,484	14,055
20 - 45.....	62,073	20,384	82,457
46 - 65.....	20,021	3,050	23,071
Over 65.....	13,724	402	14,126

Table III—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified
And Applicants Registered, by Province During August, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies		Average Weekly Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
CANADA.....	38,636	100	36,371	100
Maritime Provinces.....	2,204	6	2,661	7
Quebec.....	9,053	23	8,705	24
Ontario.....	16,246	42	13,970	39
Prairie Provinces.....	5,588	15	5,894	16
British Columbia.....	5,545	14	5,141	14

Table IV—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Referrals by Sex,
From August, 1945 to August, 1946.

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Month	Male	Female	Total
August, 1945.....	29,431	7,943	37,374
September ".....	31,653	9,303	40,956
October ".....	31,197	8,924	40,121
November ".....	28,238	8,669	36,907
December ".....	16,198	5,448	21,646
January, 1946.....	12,949	6,795	19,744
February ".....	12,924	6,725	19,649
March ".....	14,547	7,400	21,947
April ".....	18,742	7,286	26,028
May ".....	20,324	7,683	27,907
June ".....	19,416	7,868	27,284
July ".....	18,693	7,580	26,273
August ".....	17,310	7,915	25,225

Table V—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Placements by Sex,
From August, 1945 to August, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Month	Male	Female	Total
August, 1945.....	20,766	5,093	25,859
September ".....	24,239	5,972	30,211
October ".....	23,621	5,379	29,000
November ".....	22,823	5,307	28,130
December ".....	15,765	3,703	17,468
January, 1946.....	9,177	3,763	12,940
February ".....	8,643	3,816	12,459
March ".....	9,812	4,159	13,971
April ".....	11,871	4,059	15,930
May ".....	13,598	4,387	17,985
June ".....	12,682	4,686	17,368
July ".....	12,350	4,665	17,015
August ".....	11,573	4,787	16,360

Table VI—Average Weekly Placement Operations of Executive and
Professional Offices During August, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Office	Applications	Vacancies	Referrals	Placements
Total.....	346	154	201	33
Moncton.....	13	9	8	4
Montreal.....	181	58	40	10
Toronto.....	86	47	111	9
Winnipeg.....	20	24	20	4
Vancouver.....	46	16	22	6

Table VII—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Engagements Without Referral,
By Province During July, 1946 and August, 1946, With Percentage
Change During Month.

(Source: UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Engagements		
	August, 1946	July, 1946	Per Cent Change
Canada.....	23,381	27,141	-14
Maritime Provinces.....	1,537	1,734	-11
Quebec.....	7,645	8,682	-12
Ontario.....	7,918	9,717	-19
Prairie Provinces.....	2,927	3,416	-14
British Columbia.....	3,354	3,592	- 7

Table VIII—Non-agricultural Vacancies Notified as Reported by the
National Employment Service, August, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Vacancies During Month	Average Weekly Vacancies Number	% Change From	
			July 1946	August 1945
All industries.....	154,544	38,636	11.0	-20.1
Logging.....	23,192	5,798	70.0	51.9
Mining.....	4,065	1,016	- 6.8	-46.9
Manufacturing.....	49,584	12,396	15.0	-32.1
Food and kindred products.....	12,233	3,058	23.8	-23.2
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	7,935	1,984	34.5	-33.4
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	5,394	1,349	5.1	-24.1
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	4,726	1,182	25.7	-16.5
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,279	320	5.6	-50.9
Products of petroleum and coal.....	339	85	-10.5	-44.1
Rubber goods.....	602	150	35.1	-63.8
Leather and products.....	1,361	340	26.9	-36.0
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,457	364	-14.4	-24.3
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,892	973	12.7	-41.1
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,881	470	- 6.2	-20.2
Machinery.....	3,869	967	- 0.9	-17.2
Transportation equipment.....	3,035	759	9.2	-59.7
Miscellaneous.....	1,581	395	4.8	-30.8
Construction.....	19,079	4,770	- 6.6	-28.2
Transportation and storage.....	8,040	2,010	7.7	-42.5
Other public utilities.....	2,152	538	7.0	2.7
Trade.....	16,598	4,149	19.9	-19.3
Finance and insurance.....	2,451	613	4.3	0.5
Public and professional service.....	9,067	2,267	- 4.4	3.3
Other service.....	20,316	5,079	- 9.8	-12.1

Table IX--Non-agricultural Referrals as Reported by the
National Employment Service, August, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Refer- rals During Month	Average Weekly Referrals		
		Number	% Change From	
			July 1946	August 1945
All industries:.....	100,901	25,225	- 4.0	-32.5
Logging.....	3,059	765	- 8.3	-59.2
Mining.....	2,859	715	3.2	-20.2
Manufacturing.....	32,280	8,070	0.7	-41.6
Food and kindred products.....	7,031	1,758	4.3	-35.1
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	4,460	1,115	25.0	-30.1
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	3,866	966	- 2.9	-33.3
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	2,769	692	2.5	-37.9
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,090	272	-13.1	-52.3
Products of petroleum and coal.....	256	64	-14.7	-52.2
Rubber goods.....	289	72	22.0	-75.7
Leather and products.....	739	185	12.8	-38.1
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,133	283	-20.1	-27.6
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,119	780	2.9	-52.6
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,582	396	5.6	-17.2
Machinery.....	2,981	745	- 9.9	-32.2
Transportation equipment.....	1,834	459	-17.3	-72.0
Miscellaneous.....	1,131	283	- 1.1	-29.6
Construction.....	15,925	3,981	- 7.3	-28.1
Transportation and storage.....	5,904	1,476	- 0.5	-56.1
Other public utilities.....	1,117	279	-16.0	-37.3
Trade.....	15,222	3,805	10.2	-19.5
Finance and insurance.....	1,717	429	-12.5	-24.7
Public and professional service.....	7,076	1,769	-10.8	- 3.1
Other service.....	15,742	3,936	-16.2	- 8.9

Table X—Non-agricultural Placements as Reported by the
National Employment Service, August, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Place- ments During Month	Average Weekly Placements		
		Number	% Change From	
			July 1946	August 1945
All industries	65,441	16,360	- 3.9	-36.7
Logging	2,703	676	- 6.4	-61.1
Mining	2,066	516	- 5.3	-25.2
Manufacturing	19,965	4,991	3.0	-45.5
Food and kindred products	4,144	1,036	0.5	-40.3
Textiles, apparel, etc.	2,798	699	29.0	-31.6
Lumber and finished lumber products ..	2,784	696	1.8	-33.9
Pulp and paper products and printing .	1,826	456	4.6	-44.2
Chemicals and allied products	592	148	- 7.5	-55.4
Products of petroleum and coal	134	33	-15.4	-61.6
Rubber goods	193	48	17.1	-76.0
Leather and products	390	98	11.4	-47.0
Stone, clay and glass products	715	179	-14.8	-29.3
Iron and steel and their products	1,765	441	1.6	-56.4
Non-ferrous metals	946	237	8.2	-28.6
Machinery	1,695	424	- 4.5	-34.4
Transportation equipment	1,334	334	- 5.9	-73.3
Miscellaneous	649	162	- 1.2	-29.9
Construction	11,702	2,925	- 5.0	-26.8
Transportation and storage	3,973	993	5.5	-58.7
Other public utilities	754	189	-22.9	-40.2
Trade	8,262	2,066	7.8	-27.8
Finance and insurance	834	209	-18.7	-39.3
Public and professional service	4,885	1,221	- 4.7	- 7.9
Other service	10,297	2,574	-19.1	-15.3

Table XI—Non-agricultural Engagements Without Referral as Reported
by the National Employment Service, August, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Engage- ments During Month	Average Weekly Engagements		
		Number	% Change From	
			July 1946	August 1945
All industries	93,524	23,381	-13.9	118.4
Logging	10,761	2,690	33.3	307.6
Mining	3,194	799	- 1.9	256.7
Manufacturing	31,129	7,782	-13.2	106.8
Food and kindred products	6,680	1,670	- 8.1	130.3
Textiles, apparel, etc.	4,571	1,143	5.1	63.3
Lumber and finished lumber products ..	3,991	998	-26.7	141.6
Pulp and paper products and printing .	2,814	703	-30.5	92.1
Chemicals and allied products	839	210	-25.5	52.2
Products of petroleum and coal	337	84	-30.3	320.0
Rubber goods	433	108	16.1	120.4
Leather and products	1,130	282	10.6	120.3
Stone, clay and glass products	989	247	-13.3	216.7
Iron and steel and their products	2,561	640	-10.4	128.6
Non-ferrous metals	1,096	274	- 9.0	142.5
Machinery	2,599	650	3.7	180.2
Transportation equipment	2,203	551	-21.3	42.0
Miscellaneous	886	222	-23.7	66.9
Construction	13,306	3,326	-11.0	430.5
Transportation and storage	5,759	1,440	-28.6	106.6
Other public utilities	1,696	424	-29.9	124.3
Trade	10,057	2,514	-18.1	37.0
Finance and insurance	1,436	359	-38.7	30.5
Public and professional service	6,995	1,749	-15.6	143.6
Other service	9,191	2,298	-29.5	33.7

Table XII—Non-agricultural Separations as Reported by the
National Employment Service, August, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Separ- ations During Month	Average Weekly Separations		
		Number	% Change From	
			July 1946	August 1945
All industries.....	126,645	31,661	13.1	-27.1
Logging.....	7,078	1,770	6.5	- 1.5
Mining.....	4,478	1,120	6.8	2.1
Manufacturing.....	52,731	13,183	20.5	-45.4
Food and kindred products.....	7,767	1,942	13.5	-10.4
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	7,885	1,971	26.3	- 0.2
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	5,365	1,341	24.5	- 6.7
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	4,815	1,204	36.5	7.0
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,875	469	35.5	-69.8
Products of petroleum and coal.....	549	137	31.7	- 8.1
Rubber goods.....	696	174	- 4.4	-54.0
Leather and products.....	1,816	454	48.9	35.5
Stone, clay and glass products.....	2,033	508	17.6	48.1
Iron and steel and their products.....	4,842	1,210	18.9	-68.2
Non-ferrous metals.....	2,272	568	38.9	-15.1
Machinery.....	4,890	1,223	17.6	-22.9
Transportation equipment.....	6,144	1,536	4.5	-81.2
Miscellaneous.....	1,782	446	9.9	- 1.3
Construction.....	16,712	4,178	2.3	39.6
Transportation and storage.....	7,533	1,883	3.9	-32.3
Other public utilities.....	1,965	491	14.5	1.4
Trade.....	13,488	3,372	10.4	- 8.2
Finance and insurance.....	2,222	555	21.7	- 7.7
Public and professional service.....	8,334	2,083	17.4	-15.2
Other service.....	12,104	3,026	10.3	-10.4

PART II

DEMOBILIZATION AND RECONVERSION

Section I:--ACTIVITIES OF EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

The high rate of demobilization was maintained during August, when 18,000 service personnel re-entered civilian life. Many were members of the women's divisions which are being dissolved.

The number of job applicants at National Employment Service offices continued high during the month while placements dropped slightly. Ex-servicemen registering for the first time are dwindling. Those classified as revivals are increasing and in time will form the bulk of the applicants. August saw fewer reinstatements made.

Even though the number making application for employment remained high, the number of jobless veterans at the end of the month decreased by more than 5,000 from the figure at the end of July. Similarly, the number unplaced 15 days or more took a sharp drop. The demand for out-of-work allowances decreased substantially indicating the easier labour market.

The occupational classification of unplaced ex-service personnel underwent a change. At the end of August, the percentage of skilled and semi-skilled workmen equalled that of unskilled.

Discharges

Demobilization poised before a major decline--While demobilization is considered to be almost complete, the number discharged during August remained relatively high. Every effort is being made to release as soon as possible all personnel whose services can be dispensed with, both in the overseas forces and in the various offices and stations across Canada. During August, 18,000 service personnel were released, bringing to more than 963,000 the total number discharged since the beginning of the war. The effective strength of the armed forces at the end of August was 66,169. This figure excludes those missing, on extended leave and those seconded.

The women's divisions are being dissolved; their former positions being filled by men. During October, 1945, the peak discharge period, the number of women released constituted only 4 per cent of the total. The number rose to 8 and 10 per cent respectively in July and August, thus swelling demobilization.

Table I shows discharges by months, August 1945 to August 1946, inclusive.

Applications for Employment in National Employment Service Offices

Number of new applicants dwindling--Although the rate of discharge from the armed forces has declined and many are getting jobs on their own, the number making application at National Employment Service offices, continued to be high. During July, the number of applications increased by more than 2,000 over the figure for June while the number for August declined by 600. The greatest change was in the number applying for work for the first time since discharge, which showed a drop from 19,322 in July to 17,792 during August. New applicants constituted 43 per cent of total ex-service personnel registering during July and 40 per cent during August. Little change occurred in the number classified as revivals. However, when the activity in this group is compared with the total number of ex-service personnel applying, revivals during August made up 47 per cent, compared with 45 per cent during the previous month. It is expected that the division in applications now will follow this pattern, becoming more marked from month to month until new applicants will almost disappear.

Placements

Jobless veterans getting preference--National Employment Service offices placed 22,175 ex-servicemen during August as compared with 23,776, one month earlier. While this drop is greater than the decline in applicants, these persons were placed at a time when the country was crippled with strikes in major basic industries. In addition to those placed, 4,136 ex-servicemen had been referred to specific jobs but notification of their appointment or rejection had not yet been received.

A special effort is being made in all offices to place disabled veterans in jobs where they can have a definite sense of security as well as make a real contribution to industry. During the period July 15 to August 14, National Employment Service offices placed 461 ex-servicemen. Another 414 were placed by the Casualty Rehabilitation Officers of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Employment offices also placed more than 1,600 persons who served in World War I and are, therefore, 45 years of age or more.

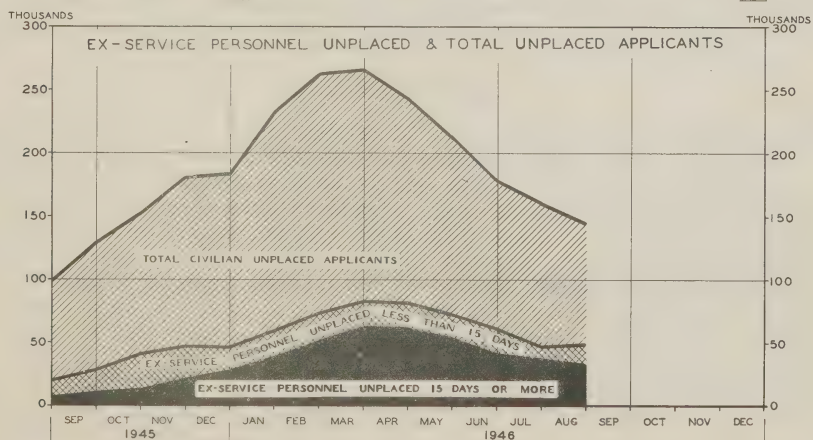
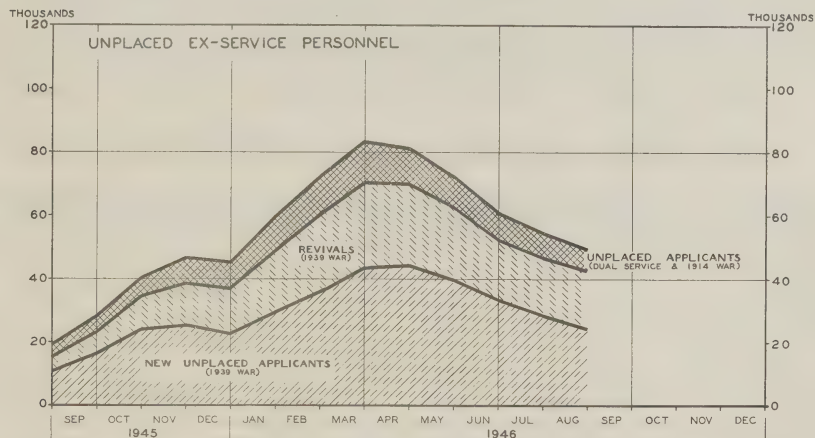
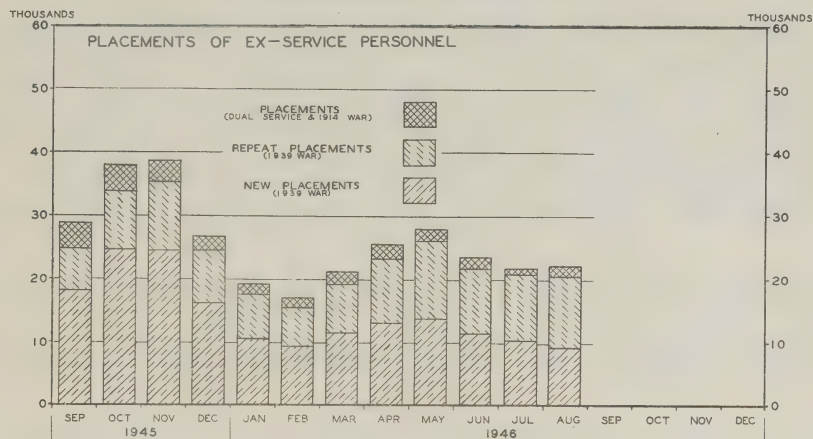
Jobless ex-service personnel received 35 per cent of all placements made during August, a 5 per cent rise over the figure for July. This illustrates not only that veterans are getting a preference but also that they are types of workmen acceptable to employers. Figures on applications and placements are shown in Table III.

Reinstatements

Sharp drop in reinstatements--The number of reinstatements of ex-servicemen continued its swift decline, during August 4,761 persons had returned to their pre-war jobs as compared with 5,721 persons in the previous month. The group of service personnel eligible for reinstatement is bound to dwindle; it is more than a year since hostilities ceased. Older men who had jobs to which to return have been rehabilitated and younger men who entered the forces directly from school do not qualify. At the end of August, there were only 400 applicants requesting rehabilitation who had not returned to pre-war jobs. Since August 1945, approximately 161,377 have been reinstated. Table IV shows the cumulative discharges and reinstatements, monthly, August 1945 to August 1946.

APPLICANTS AND PLACEMENTS

EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL



Unplaced Applicants

Number of job-seekers continues downward trend--At August 31, National Employment Service offices reported 49,526 ex-servicemen unplaced compared with 54,735 at July 31. The number of applicants registered 15 days or more dropped from 37,765 during July to 33,504 in August. These sharp reductions continue despite both the current unsettled labour situation, and the stable level of demobilization during July and August. For the third consecutive month, unplaced ex-service personnel constituted 34 per cent of all unplaced applicants. Table V shows total unplaced ex-servicemen and those unplaced 15 days or more, from August 31, 1945 to August 31, 1946.

Discharged personnel of World War I, only, made up 85 per cent of those unplaced at the end of August, while 12 per cent served in World War I and the balance in both wars. Of this group, 36 per cent had been previously employed since discharge, a 2 per cent increase over the number reported at the end of July.

The number of jobless ex-servicemen is reflected in the number seeking out-of-work benefits which are provided under the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order. At the end of August, 19,321 persons were receiving payments. Table VI shows the number of ex-service personnel claiming out-of-work benefits and the number of benefit payments made, February to August, 1946.

Occupational Classification of Unplaced Ex-service Personnel

Percentage of skilled and unskilled workmen now equal--During August, the occupational pattern underwent a slight change reflecting labour needs in seasonally active industries. Unplaced ex-servicemen holding out for "white collar" jobs showed a percentage rise. Agricultural workers were in heavy demand during the month due to bumper crops in many areas. The percentage of unplaced veterans classified as skilled and semi-skilled was the same as for those grouped as unskilled, each representing 36 per cent of the total. The former classification increased by 8 points while the latter dropped 15 points from the percentage quoted at the end of July. During August, the civilian skilled and semi-skilled constituted 27 per cent of the total unplaced and the unskilled 38 per cent. Table VII shows the percentage distribution by occupational groups of unplaced ex-service personnel as at selected dates.

Future Prospects

It has been estimated that the number discharged during September would not exceed 12,000 and then would drop to approximately 6,000 per month. This rate will probably be maintained until the present force is pared down to the number required for peace-time strength. The decreasing flow of ex-servicemen into the much easier labour market, coupled with the preference and consideration they receive, should do much toward placing every capable veteran on file at National Employment Service Offices. Many unplaced ex-servicemen will replace others who held profitable jobs during the summer months and now are returning to university. Demand for more workers, both skilled and unskilled will follow settlement of the basic industry strikes, to bring the supply of goods up to the needs of the country. During the next few months, the labour requirements for logging and kindred occupations will increase in preparation for the winter activity.

Table I—Number Discharged from Armed Forces, By Months,
August, 1945 to August, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence)

Month	Navy	Army	Air Force	Total
August, 1945.....	6,679	22,184	8,503	37,366
September "	9,878	34,093	30,773	74,744
October "	14,931	45,994	32,042	92,967
November "	15,712	35,813	13,873	65,398
December "	7,668	22,118	8,454	38,240
January, 1946.....	7,560	40,735	8,554	56,849
February "	7,552	48,665	9,019	65,235
March "	5,493	56,512	8,641	70,646
April "	4,998	44,439	6,325	55,762
May "	2,743	29,728	6,005	38,476
June "	1,768	17,081	4,048	22,897
July "	542	16,169	3,548	20,259
August "	678	14,804	2,961	18,443

Table II—Discharges from Armed Forces and Applications of World War II
Dischargees by Months, August, 1945 to August, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Discharges	Applications	
		New Applicants	Revivals
August, 1945.....	37,366	23,950	10,616
September "	74,744	31,351	12,092
October "	92,967	43,586	18,546
November "	65,398	37,726	20,329
December "	38,240	24,934	16,133
January, 1946.....	56,849	27,641	18,568
February "	65,235	25,025	17,075
March "	70,646	30,400	18,271
April "	55,762	26,288	16,874
May "	38,476	25,216	19,807
June "	22,897	20,166	18,961
July "	20,259	20,346	20,807
August "	18,443	18,972	21,471

Table III—Live Applications and Placements of Ex-Servicemen
With Civilian Comparison, August, 1945 to August, 1946
(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B and Form U.I.C. 751B)

Month		Live Applications (1)	Placements (2)	Comparison of (2) With (1) Per Cent (3)	Civilian Equivalents of (3)
August.	1945.....	53,963	22,541	41.8	41.6
September	"	69,292	29,321	42.3	38.4
October	"	98,125	38,298	39.0	34.3
November	"	106,955	38,674	36.2	29.5
December	"	93,652	26,653	28.5	21.4
January	1946.....	98,002	19,454	19.9	15.7
February	"	106,295	16,831	15.8	12.9
March	"	125,474	21,228	16.9	14.7
April	"	130,062	25,505	19.6	17.2
May	"	130,206	28,522	21.9	19.6
June	"	115,432	23,654	20.5	21.5
July	"	106,429	23,776	22.3	23.6
August	"	99,379	22,175	22.3	24.2

Table IV—Cumulative Discharges and Reinstatements
Monthly, August, 1945 to August, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 8212)

Month		Cumulative Discharges since Aug. 1, 1945 (1)	Cumulative Reinstatements since Aug. 1, 1945 (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
August	31, 1945.....	37,366	2,828	7.6
September	30 "	112,110	12,264	10.9
October	31 "	205,077	30,307	14.8
November	30 "	270,475	48,017	17.8
December	31 "	308,715	60,320	19.5
January	31, 1946.....	365,564	77,648	21.2
February	28 "	430,799	95,013	22.1
March	31 "	501,445	114,147	22.7
April	30 "	557,207	131,127	23.5
May	31 "	595,683	143,230	24.0
June	30 "	618,580	150,895	24.4
July.	31 "	638,839	156,616	24.5
August	31 "	657,282	161,377	24.6

Table V—Unplaced Ex-servicemen and Those Unplaced 15 Days or More as at the End of the Month, August, 1945 to August, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Unplaced Ex-servicemen (1)	Ex-servicemen Unplaced 15 Days or More (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
August, 31, 1945.....	18,956	5,599	29.5
September, 30 "	27,770	10,098	36.4
October, 31 "	40,780	13,977	34.3
November, 30 "	46,503	20,775	44.7
December, 31 "	45,974	27,887	60.7
January, 31, 1946.....	59,861	37,364	62.4
February, 28 "	72,305	50,286	69.5
March, 31 "	83,029	61,018	73.5
April, 30 "	81,207	61,292	75.5
May, 31 "	72,370	52,722	72.9
June, 30 "	61,168	44,587	72.9
July, 31 "	54,735	37,765	69.0
August, 31 "	49,526	33,504	67.6

Table VI—Number of Ex-Service Personnel Claiming Out-of-Work Benefits and Number of Benefit Payments made, February to August, 1946.

(Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Date	Live Claims as at End of Month	Benefit Payments During Last Week of Month
February, 1946.....	30,473	19,715
March "	43,729	34,637
April "	41,837	32,364
May "	37,291	33,297
June "	30,677	25,051
July "	25,463	20,713
August "	21,939	19,321

Table VII—Percentage Distribution of Occupational Categories
of Unplaced Ex-Service Personnel as at Selected Dates

(Source: Forms U.I.C. 757 and 759 for Ex-Service Personnel)

Occupational Group	Jan. 31, 1946	April 30, 1946	July 31, 1946	Aug. 31, 1946
Professional and managerial workers	5.2	4.9	5.8	6.1
Clerical workers.....	9.8	9.6	10.6	11.1
Sales workers.....	6.1	6.0	6.2	6.4
Service workers.....	5.1	4.8	5.1	5.4
Agricultural workers.....	1.7	3.5	2.0	1.4
Fishermen.....	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.6
Skilled and semi-skilled workers...	37.5	35.7	33.7	34.5
Food products.....	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5
Textiles, clothing, etc.....	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.4
Lumber and wood products.....	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9
Pulp and paper products.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Printing.....	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2
Leather and products.....	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Stone, clay and glass products..	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Electrical.....	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4
Mining and quarrying.....	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6
Construction workers.....	5.4	4.0	3.2	3.6
Metalworkers.....	6.6	5.4	5.8	6.4
Miscellaneous.....	21.1	21.8	20.2	20.0
Unskilled workers.....	34.4	34.9	36.0	34.5
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Section 2:—EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

Construction
Logging

Steel Shipbuilding and Repairing
Rubber and Its Products

Construction

Employment nearing seasonal peak—As pointed out in previous issues, no monthly statistics on total employment in the construction industry are available. The coverage of the D.B.S. Employment and Payrolls Statistics Branch is incomplete due to the large number of small contractors who do not report. Most estimates now agree, however, that upwards of 250,000 on-site workers are actively engaged in the construction industry. The D.B.S. index of construction employment has shown a steady rise since spring and at August 1 was 148.2 based on 1926 as 100 per cent. This was a rise of seven points over the July figure.

According to a recent study of seasonal variations in this industry made by the Department of Labour over the period from 1924-39, the average peak of construction employment came in September. This year, with the demand for housing so urgent, the amplitude of seasonal variation may be considerably less than usual, with more winter construction being carried on.

Labour market active—Construction expansion, which has taken place in spite of material shortages, is reflected by the movement of workers through employment offices. During August, 19,000 construction vacancies were reported to the National Employment Service and 11,702 applicants were placed. In the same month, 13,300 workers were engaged directly by employers and 16,700 quit the industry. One interesting feature of the material shortage situation is the shifting of skilled men from one job to another as projects are delayed. Consequently few tradesmen are off work for any time.

Strikes worsen material situation—The already inadequate supplies of construction materials have been further reduced by the strikes in the basic steel and electrical fixtures industries. As well, workers in plants manufacturing copper tubing and cast iron soil pipe were out. The steel strike was especially keenly felt. Nails were in such short supply that a 100 pound keg was reputedly worth from \$30.00 to \$40.00 on the black market, as compared with the normal price of less than \$6.00. Steel sheetings, pipe, tubes and fittings

were other items whose production was hit by this strike. Complaints are still being made that in the keen competition for building materials, business and industrial contractors are winning out at the expense of residential building. In general, no appreciable improvement in the building material situation can be looked for until 1947.

Wholesale price index rises slightly—The D.B.S. August index of wholesale prices of building materials stood at 134.8 (1926=100). This was a rise of 7.8 points since August 1945. No figure on construction costs is available as labour costs statistics are not available but conservative estimates place the total costs figure at 60 per cent above 1939.

August contracts awarded over \$50 million—During the month of August, contracts awarded totalled \$50,414,300, \$9.3 million above the figure for Aug., 1945 but \$17.3 million less than July. As mentioned in previous issues, contracts awarded represent an early stage of the construction project and it is usually some three to seven months after the contract is given that the work is finally completed. Thus the construction contractors now are working on contracts made last spring and early summer. At this period the monthly value was up around the \$75-\$80 million mark. The total value of contracts awarded for the first eight months of this year was 460 millions, 73 per cent above the same period in 1945. By type, the only increase registered in August, was in industrial construction. Residential, business, and engineering contracts all declined, the largest drop being in the latter category.

Future prospects—The 1946 construction season has been most disappointing, especially from the residential housing point of view as less than 30,000 units have been completed in this field so far. It is expected, however, that 1947 will be a better year. A recent release from the Department of Reconstruction estimated on-site employment in building construction in 1947 will reach the 60,000-70,000 mark, and that a 60,000 unit target is well within the industry's capacity. In view of the fact that reported employment in building at present is over 72,000 this estimate is by no means over-optimistic.

This country's immediate housing deficit has been estimated at 320,000 units. Assuming favourable economic conditions, a five year period of full employment in the Canadian construction industry will be necessary to complete this minimum building need.

Logging

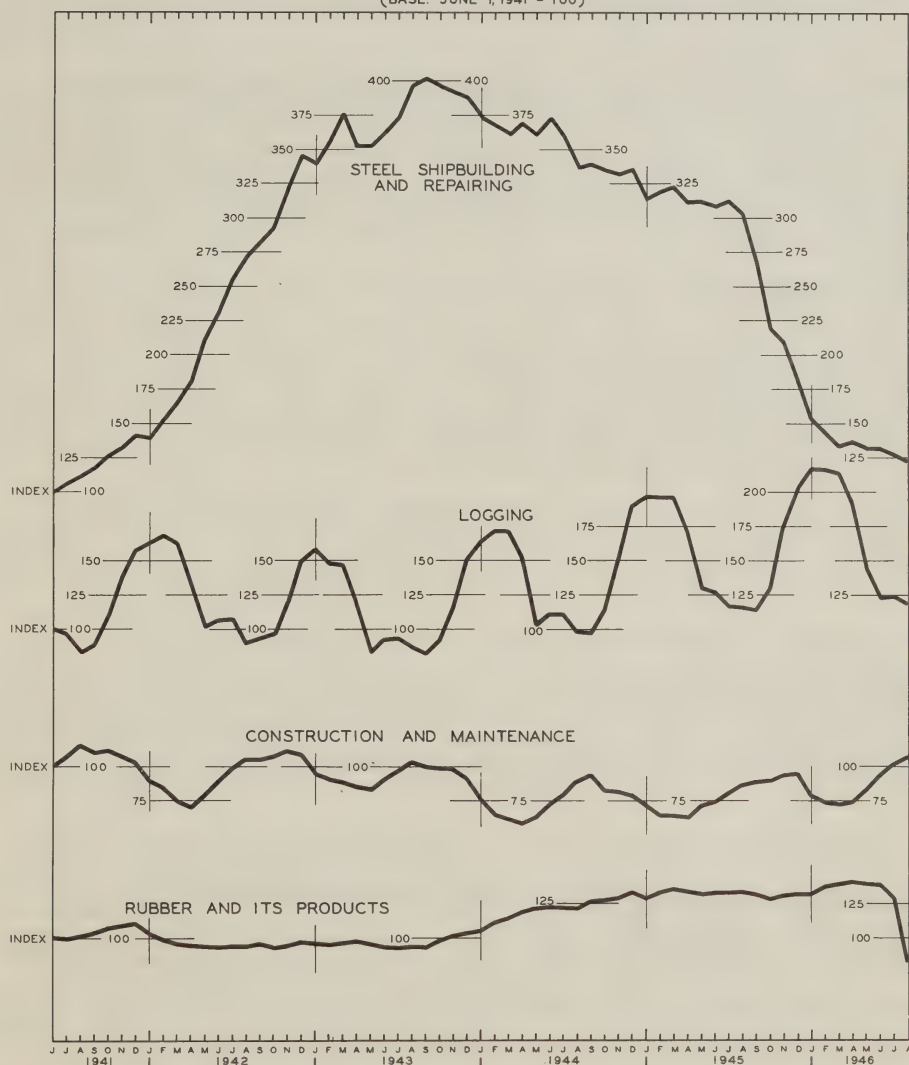
Record cut anticipated this winter—All reports indicate that this year's bush operations will be on a larger scale than in any previous season. Demand for both pulpwood and lumber logs was never higher and the quantity of pulp, paper and lumber products available in 1947 will depend primarily on this winter's cut. Under these conditions, and with more men available, it seems likely that employment will reach a new high this winter, eclipsing last February's record of reported employment, 103,000.

The latest reported employment figures available are those of August 1, which do not reflect the improvement in the employment picture resulting from the beginning of seasonal activity. The employment index at this date was 187.4 (1926=100), a drop of nine points from the previous month. As yet, the movement of agricultural workers, a most important segment of the industry's labour force, to the camps has not begun and peak employment will not be reached until late January or February.

INDEX NUMBERS OF EMPLOYMENT IN SELECTED CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

FROM JUNE 1, 1941 TO AUGUST 1, 1946

(BASE: JUNE 1, 1941 = 100)



Shortage of men continues—The industry-wide need for loggers is reflected in statistics on unfilled vacancies reported to National Employment Service offices. At September 12, 32,000 more men were needed to bring the logging labour force up to full capacity. About 75 per cent of these workers are needed for pulpwood operations and the remainder for lumber camps. At present, there are few applicants for these jobs but a big increase is expected with the end of the harvest season. Over 70 per cent of the men beginning work are taken on directly by the employers, rather than through employment office channels. P.O.W.'s, some 12,000 of whom worked in logging camps during 1945, will all be gone this year.

B.C. workers obtain substantial pay boosts—Canadian forestry production suffered a major blow this year with the recent strike which closed 147 logging camps, sawmills, and lumber camps in B.C. from May 15 to June 21. Over 35,000 loggers and woodworkers were involved in the dispute. The effect of the strike was immediately felt in all industries. Fruit and fish packing plants were held up because of the shortage of wooden containers. Construction and shipyard activities were delayed because of the lack of lumber, and so on.

The settlement finally accepted by both sides was that suggested by Justice Sloan, the Federal negotiator. Seventy-five per cent of the workers were given wage increases of 15 cents an hour, plus 3 cents an hour to cover over-time payments. The remainder of the strikers, who were loggers from the interior of the province, were given a different scale of increases which raised their pay from 12 to 24 cents per hour. The union, the International Woodworkers of America (C.I.O.-C.C.L.) originally asked for a 25 cent-an-hour increase and a 40 hour week with a check-off system in all plants.

Uptrend in earnings still apparent—Often considered a low wage industry earnings in logging increased considerably from 1939 on. As shown on the accompanying table per capita weekly earnings at July 1, 1946 were \$10.00 more than they were at the same date in 1941.

These figures are scarcely comparable with those of other industries, as the value of board and lodging is not included. The high rate of turnover common to logging camps is an additional factor in lowering average earnings. But allowing a minimum of \$1.00 a day for board, a rough idea of how the logging industry stands in comparison to some others can be seen. The figure for per capita weekly earnings at July 1 in manufacturing was \$32.36; in mining \$39.49; for services \$20.96; and for construction \$31.22.

Table I—Per Capita Weekly Earnings in the Logging Industry, 1941-46

(Source: Employment and Payroll Statistics Branch, D.B.S.)

Month	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
January.....	—X	17.76	21.37	24.08	27.02	27.34
April.....	—X	20.26	23.70	27.69	28.18	28.67
July.....	19.39	21.57	26.00	26.75	27.57	29.24
October.....	18.88	21.85	27.64	26.54	27.48	—X

X Figures not available for these dates

Employers forecast 100 per cent increase in employment—All reports from employers indicate that they plan large scale expansion in their working forces beginning in the early fall. Estimates from 42 operators, employing over 32,000 wage earners, show that these employers would like to add an equal number of workers to this total by the peak of the cutting season. This increase will be mainly in eastern Canada, as the seasonal factor is not so important on the west coast.

Nature and location of the work impedes recruitment, causes heavy turnover—Logging is carried on close to available timber stands, usually away from the centres of population. Employers provide food and housing in the woods, the men living in bunkhouses and eating in a common mess. The work requires a considerable amount of physical strength and exertion and is carried on out of doors. These working conditions are not very attractive to the average applicant. Consequently the rate of turnover is very high. Logging camps are often temporary stopping places for the unemployed man who wants a little cash. As noted, agricultural workers in the off-season form a high percentage of the logging labourers. Economic necessity which brought many of these men to the camps in the 30's is no longer a prime motive, and they often stay in the bush for only a short period. Last year, the "baby bonus", especially in Quebec, and higher wage rates in the States were important factors in draining off the supply of skilled loggers. In spite of all these factors, however, logging camp operators predict a record year in 1946-47.

Steel Shipbuilding and Repairing.

Employment remains relatively high—A surprising feature of the post-war Canadian industrial scene has been the maintenance of employment in the shipbuilding industry at a fairly high level. While the present number employed is far below the war-time peak (reported employment at August 1 was 25,000 compared to the 90,000 high in September 1943), it is away ahead of the pre-war level when employment hovered around the 2,000-3,000 mark. The employment index based on 1926=100, stood at 490.8 at August 1.

This relatively high employment level is due to contracts from foreign countries, among which France, Brazil and the Netherlands are prominent, as well as a considerable amount of domestic repair work and new construction.

Wage rate increases granted B.C. workers—In a decision given September 27, the National War Labour Board granted 15 cent-an-hour wage increases to 6,000 B.C. shipyard workers. This was the result of a joint application made by five B.C. shipbuilding and repairing companies and nineteen union organizations for authority to increase wage rates by 15 cents an hour and for adjustments in rules governing pay for overtime work.

There were two major considerations in this case which influenced the board's decision. A nine cent-an-hour increase was granted to maintain "take-home" pay in the face of reduction of the work week from 44 hours to 40 hours. A further six cent an hour increase was approved by the board on the grounds that no wage increases had been granted since 1943 in this industry while wage rates in other industries had been advancing. It is noteworthy that this decision marks a deviation from the "10 cent limit pattern" proposed by Donald Gordon.

Earnings—Per capita weekly earnings in the steel shipbuilding and repairing industry now are considerably below their war-time peak. At July 1, this figure was \$37.39, compared to the all-time high of \$42.43 received in November, 1944.

This decrease was due in part to lower hourly earnings but even more to a reduction in hours of the actual work-week. Up to the end of the war, shipyard workers were putting in from 45 to 47 hours per week and hourly earnings ranged from 86 to 88 cents. At July 1 of this year, the number of hours worked per week was slightly over 37 and the hourly remuneration was 84.7 cents. With the recent increases given B.C. workers, earnings in the shipbuilding industry will be as high as in any industry for which comparable statistics are available.

Slight increase in employment forecast—Estimates received last June from nine of the largest Canadian shipyards, employing over 50 per cent of the total work force in the industry, indicated that an employment increase of 12 per cent could be looked for up to January, 1947, if material shortages and labour unrest did not prevent it.

Now that the steel strike has been settled, the way is clear for this upward movement to begin. Until next spring, at least, no big drop in employment should occur in this industry. But in the long run the future of Canada's shipbuilding industry will be determined by government policy. In the pre-war period, the industry was not able to compete successfully with foreign competition and a policy of subsidization seems to be the only way to ensure a healthy shipbuilding industry in this country.

Rubber and its Products

Strike enters fourth month—Since June 24, over 10,000 Ontario rubber workers have been out on strike with no settlement yet in view. Previous to the strike, negotiations between the United Rubber Workers of America (C.I.O. - C.C.L.) and the employers, had been carried on for six months.

The original union demands were embodied in a seven point program which included a 40-hour week and a wage increase of 20 cents-per-hour. In his report, Judge J.C.A. Cameron, who was appointed on May 23 to investigate conditions in the industry, recommended an eight-cent-an-hour increase and a 44-hour week. These terms were rejected by the union and so far no new basis for settlement satisfactory to both parties has been proposed. During August, employees of the Barringham Company of Oakville returned to work under the above terms provided that the company accept the terms of settlement finally agreed upon by the other strikers and their employers.

Employment drops 25 per cent—Due to the strike, reported employment in the industry had dropped by almost 10,000 up to August 1. At this date, there were 13,900 workers in Canadian rubber factories, almost exactly the same number as were employed in August, 1939, when the industry was just beginning to recover from the effects of the depression. Up to June of this year, employment had been steadily rising (see accompanying chart), and had stayed at the war-time peak even during the reconversion period.

Few vacancies reported—With six of the major producers strikebound, the number of job openings in rubber factories has been considerably reduced. At September 5, 395 current vacancies were on file at the National Employment Service. Immediately previous to the strike, the number of vacancies had hovered around the 1100-1200 mark with slightly more men than women required. Sixty per cent of the jobs available now are for women, who constitute just slightly more than a quarter of total wage-earner employment. By province, the vacancies are about equally divided between Ontario and Quebec, although the major section of the industry is located in the former province.

Polymer Corporation—The manufacture of synthetic rubber now has apparently become a permanent feature of the Canadian rubber manufacturing scene. Operating under government supervision, the Polymer Corporation will produce over 100 million pounds of synthetic rubber annually in its sixty million dollar plant. As well, it will serve as a distributor of crude rubber under the aegis of the Rubber Controller. At the present time, with a staff of 1750 at Sarnia, Polymer is one of the largest rubber factories in the country.

So far, there has been no difficulty in securing markets for this product. Most of the company's production has been going to the home market but it is expected that the volume of exports will increase as the home market shrinks in size. Further, it is expected that the presence of synthetic product on the rubber market, at a price slightly lower than that of crude, will serve as a price stabilizer and will afford Canada a certain amount of independence from Eastern Asia sources of raw material.

Employment stability forecast for remainder of 1946—Employment forecasts received previous to the strike from 10 rubber establishments in eastern Canada who normally employ over 12,000 workers, show that these employers expected to add some 350 new workers to their staffs in the last six months of 1946. This 3 per cent increase was to be evenly spread throughout the industry. The incidence of the strike, however, has upset these calculations for the present at least.

The long term outlook for the industry is bright. As indicated above, employment is double its pre-war level. With heavy domestic demand and a possible increase in the volume of exports, a continuation of full employment can be looked for for several years. After that general economic conditions, and the rubber industry is very sensitive to fluctuations of the business cycle, will determine the level of employment.

PART III

AREA ANALYSIS

Section 1: - REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following regional analysis deals with the current labour market situation in each of the five regions, Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies and Pacific. Each month a special study of the economic background, wartime, development and postwar problems of one region will be made. In this issue, the study of the Prairie region forms the fourth of this series.

Table I—Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants at October 3, By Region

(Source: Advance Report on Labour Demand and Supply, Research & Statistics Br.)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Maritimes.....	5,000	3,000	8,000	19,000	2,000	21,000
Quebec.....	34,000	16,000	50,000	26,000	9,000	35,000
Ontario.....	29,000	18,000	47,000	38,000	11,000	49,000
Prairie.....	20,000	6,000	26,000	14,000	5,000	19,000
Pacific.....	8,000	3,000	11,000	14,000	4,000	18,000
Canada.....	96,000	46,000	142,000	111,000	31,000	142,000

Maritime Region

Material supply situation critical—In the Maritime Region, lay-offs through material shortages offset expanding employment in agriculture and the volume of unplaced applicants remained steady during September. Employment conditions for men are desperate, but for women there are more jobs than applicants. Potato digging and apple harvesting are well underway; transfers of about 400 men from Cape Breton, Pictou and Amherst will meet peak requirements in Prince Edward Island. In other areas sufficient labour is available. Fish plants still report an acute scarcity of skilled cutters and filleters, and are speeding up on-the-job training. Logging operators fear a shortage of skilled woodsmen in the coming season and are planning a high-powered recruiting campaign. The steel strike has seriously affected heavy manufacturing industries. Planing mills and sash-and-door factories are very busy, as demand is urgent for their products. Construction employment is falling off rapidly because of general supply shortages. Contractors

are releasing carpenters and labourers as stocks run out, and building will shortly be at a standstill if supplies do not come through.

Quebec Region

Inadequate housing and shortage of skilled workers—Overall employment conditions slumped slightly in Quebec during September. Prolonged strikes intensified the already serious shortages of material and led to substantial lay-offs. Recruiting of harvesters for potato and apple picking in the United States has relieved the situation temporarily for some of the surplus unskilled workers. Fall cutting has already started. A heavy program is planned for the winter but the problem will be to find enough woods labour. Employment of unskilled mining labour is held up by the lack of key skilled men and the lack of housing. Some 2,000 workers and their families could find permanent employment in northern Quebec mining areas and in the Eastern Township industrial area, if suitable housing were available. Textile production is again underway at Valleyfield now that the dispute is settled. There is an acute shortage of construction tradesmen—practically no bricklayers, plasterers or terrazzo workers are obtainable.

Ontario Region

Employment dips as material supply tightens—Employment sagged again in the Ontario region as strikebound industries brought greater material shortages. Production of chemicals, rubber, copper wire and glass is still affected by labour unrest, but the recent steel settlement may set a pattern for settlement of the remaining disputes. The supply of labour can meet the present needs of most manufacturing industries, except for textiles and foundries. Female textile workers are practically unobtainable, although materials are in good supply; foundries specify sturdy skilled men. The automobile industry and its feeder plants are almost at a standstill. Strike-idle workers and prisoners-of-war are relieving labour shortages in canning factories. Farmers are applying in increasing numbers for Polish veterans. The logging industry will require 8,000 workers by the middle of October. Seasonal farm workers will turn to the woods as harvesting tapers off, but a full quota of bush workers is only a remote possibility. All types of construction tradesmen are in demand despite the very limited supply of building materials.

Prairie Region

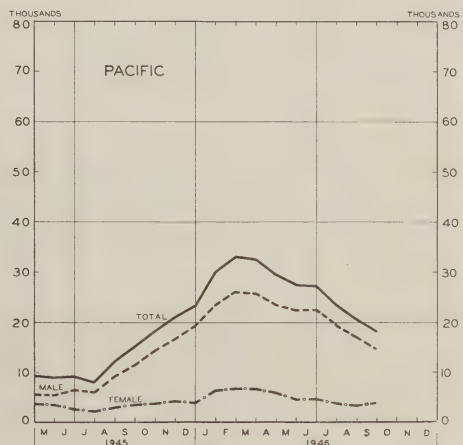
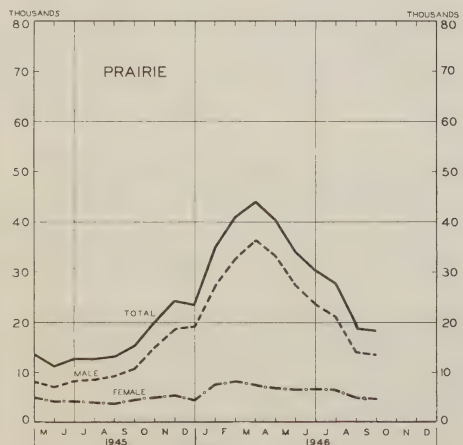
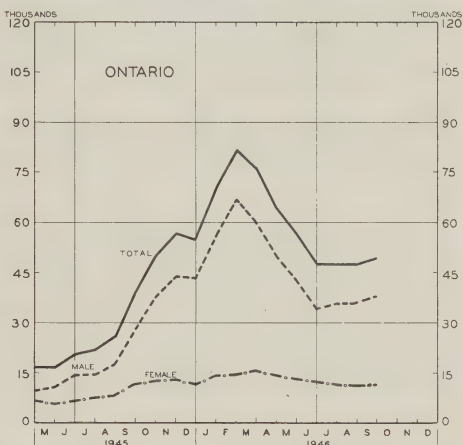
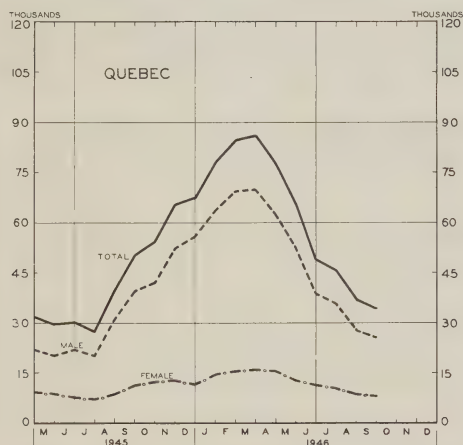
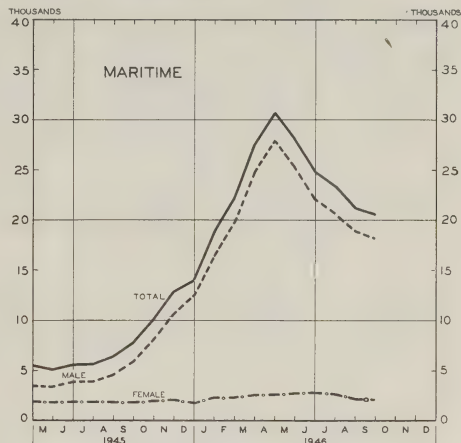
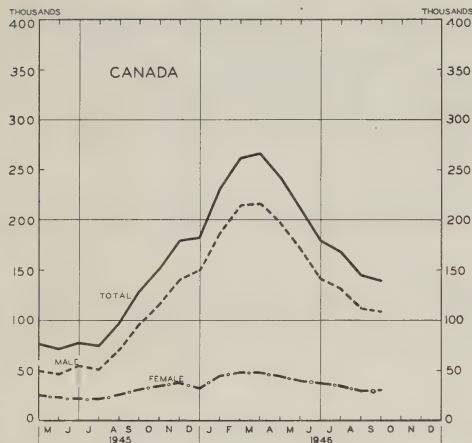
Slippery position - lack of independence—The Prairie region is the most vulnerable of the five major economies. Lack of industrial diversification makes it extremely dependent on world demand for its chief product, wheat. The chief exporting area of Canada, it is greatly affected by national policies.

Prosperity hinges on extensive international trade—International specialization benefits the Prairie Region, which can grow wheat cheaply in exchange for textiles and other goods produced at low cost in other countries. Decline of the international trading system plus widespread drought brought seemingly chronic depression. The average of total income for 1930-37 was one-half of the average income for 1926-29, while agricultural income fell by four-fifths.

REGIONAL UNPLACED APPLICANTS

AS REPORTED BY THE

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



Government expenditure above average—Government activity is always greater in an economy of the Prairie type, than in more self-sufficient regions. Transportation and communication networks are the fundamental need of the trading economy. Even in times of prosperity, therefore, government spending is still above average—activity is stimulated in railways, electric power, telephones, farm loans, grain elevators, irrigation works, which are government-sponsored. In a depression Prairie government expenditure exceeds that of average governments to make up for the collapse of the staple export, the chief source of income for the area.

Even the normal responsibility of education is heavier. Development has been rapid and spread over a large territory; there are no private endowments.

Wheat farming is 'big business'—Wheat farming is a large-scale business. It takes heavy capitalization, and only large operators can survive. Sub-sistence agriculture leads to rural slums, as climatic conditions are unfavourable to mixed farming.

Lack of diversification—Alternative industries are few. Manitoba is more diversified than Saskatchewan and Alberta. Its dependence on agriculture declined as the mining, electric power, pulp and paper industries sprang up. However, Winnipeg, the metropolitan area of the Prairie region, swings up and down with the wheat economy of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Migration to west in war years—Past trends have been the draining of surplus prairie income to the east and an outward shift of population to the west.

The war speeded up the latter movement especially. Four-fifths of the total wartime population drift between provinces, 125,700 persons, came from the Prairies. More than half of these migrants were from Saskatchewan, and Pacific war industries were the great attraction for most of them. In the entire Prairie region not more than 40,000 were employed in war manufacturing, a small proportion of the wage earning population. Agricultural workers form about 50 per cent of the Prairie labour force, which totalled 1,022,000 in June, 1946.

War boom and few reconversion problems—During the war, the heavy demand for foodstuffs and unusually high activity in transportation and services brought general prosperity. Relatively minor maladjustments in the economy and current tremendous world demand for food have simplified peace-time conversion problems.

Continued maintenance of world markets the maximum objective—The region is at present coasting along on the strength of the wheat agreement and other agricultural commitments abroad. The immediate outlook is bright. The basic problem will be to maintain foreign markets when European food countries are again in full production.

Demand tops supply at the moment—Currently, total labour demand exceeds supply. However, much of the demand is centred in the logging industry and few applicants are interested. Harvesting is almost completed throughout the region; operations ended earlier in Manitoba than in the western provinces and many eastern workers followed the harvest west. The farmers'

non-delivery strike has caused substantial lay-offs in the meat packing industry in Alberta, and to a lesser extent, in Saskatchewan. The logging industry reports heavy labour requirements but recruiting is slow, although the end of the harvest should stimulate placement. Production in base metal mines is at a high level in spite of heavy labour turnover. Gold mines in the Geraldton district face a shutdown unless more labour becomes available. Fish processing is in full swing; labour demand continues but suitable applicants are increasingly scarce. Drastic glass shortages are holding up sash-and-door production; labour turnover and scarcity of scrap iron are acute problems for the soil pipe industry. Bottlenecks of building supplies—lumber, cement, plumbing fixtures—are hindering construction, although in Winnipeg skilled and unskilled labour is still in heavy demand.

Pacific Region

September sees brighter situation—60 per cent of unplaced applicants in Vancouver—In the Pacific region, the general labour situation improved further during September. Unplaced applicants declined, although about 60 per cent are still centred in Vancouver alone. Farm labour requirements are well under control. The logging industry cannot reach maximum production because of the lack of skilled men—engineers, high riggers, hook tenders, fallers, etc. Turnover is heavy, and physical standards high. Some 2,800 miners are idle because of the strike in the hardrock industry, and many now are working at logging or construction jobs. Foundry production is returning to normal after the recent wage settlement, and employment in dependent industries is on the upgrade. Activity is increasing in the shipbuilding industry, with several major contracts on hand. Construction progress is patchy because of material bottlenecks, and workers drift from one project to another according to the supply situation.

Section 2:—A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

A Key To The Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in forty-one selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in the area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the seriousness of unemployment in each by means of the ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed. This ratio, as we have stated previously, is a crude measure evaluating short-term relative levels of unemployment.

The total labour force figure, including as it does, wage and salary workers, employers, self-employed, and unpaid family workers would be preferable as a ratio base to wage and salary workers employed. It would give a truer statement of the movement from employed status to unemployed status without reflecting movements not resulting in unemployment (e.g. a salary or a wage worker becoming self-employed). However, until labour force figures are available the ratio base will be an estimate of the number of wage and salary workers, employed in the area.

Unplaced applicants are workers who are seeking jobs through registration with the employment service. The figure of unplaced applicants will underestimate the number unemployed by the number of workers who seek work independently of the employment service. However, since it is probable that the unemployed will register with the local employment office when jobs are difficult to find and will find work on their own initiative, to a certain extent, without registering when jobs are plentiful, the unemployment ratio may understate unemployment in good times while giving a fairly accurate picture in bad times, especially in work covered by unemployment insurance.

After we have reached a measure of the unemployment in an area we must have some idea as to the meaning of the measure. In a dynamic economy, at any one moment, there will always be some workers who are not employed. Some will be changing jobs, some will have just left school and not yet found a place in the labour force, some in seasonal occupations will work only part of the year. We can classify levels of unemployment by a comparison with past levels, and designate the labour situation in the different areas by the group rating under which they come, as follows:

Group I - Areas in which over 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties".

Group II - Areas in which between 150 and 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III - Areas in which 50 to 150 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV - Areas in which under 50 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Slight, that is, in general it is that which would exist under conditions of full employment according to the experience of the years 1943 and 1944.

On the other hand we may desire more information than whether unemployment in an area is acute, serious, moderate or slight. The area tables present additional material relevant to the current labour demand and supply picture.

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Total jobs reported during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but will, in comparison with figures for previous periods, indicate the trend of labour demand.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer.

"Unplaced applicants", at any one date, includes workers who have been referred to jobs but are not yet hired and workers who have not been referred to any job. As we said above, the figure will understate the number of unemployed by the number of workers who seek work independently of the employment service. It will, in comparison with figures for previous periods, indicate the trend of labour supply.

"Claimants" are those among the unplaced applicants who are applying for unemployment insurance benefits. The group "non-claimants", those not claiming benefits, includes workers ordinarily employed in uninsurable occupations, workers who have made insufficient contribution to the fund, workers who have exhausted their benefits, and workers who have left their jobs without just cause.

A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT OCTOBER 1, 1946

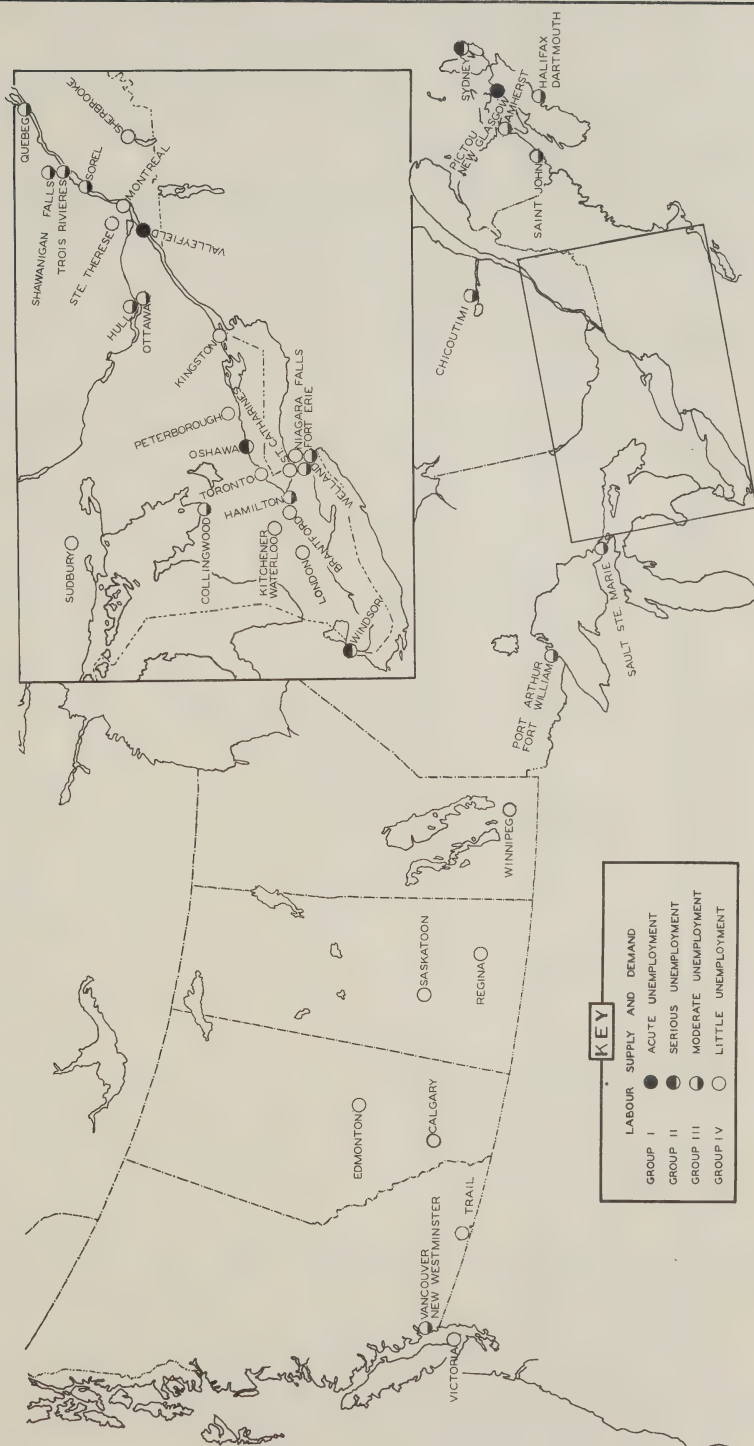


Table I—Index to Areas Analyzed in this Section with Comparable Ratings for Two Selected Previous Dates

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		July 25, 1946	Aug: 29, 1946	Sept. 26 1946
65	New Glasgow & Pictou.....	I	I	I
73	Valleyfield.....	I	I	I
83	Windsor.....	II	II	II
65	Sydney (a).....	II	II	II
79	Oshawa.....	III	II	II
75	Port Erie.....	II	II	III
69	Quebec (b).....	III	III	III
67	Hull.....	III	III	III
73	Collingwood.....	II	III	III
81	Sault Ste Marie.....	III	III	III
63	Amherst.....	III	III	III
65	Saint John.....	III	III	III
71	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
69	Shawinigan Falls.....	III	III	III
89	Vancouver (c).....	III	III	III
75	Hamilton.....	III	III	III
87	Welland.....	III	III	III
71	Sorel.....	III	III	III
63	Halifax.....	III	III	III
67	Chicoutimi.....	III	III	III
75	Port William & Port Arthur.....	III	III	III
79	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
85	Calgary (d).....	III	III	IV
83	Winnipeg.....	III	III	IV
89	Victoria.....	IV	IV	IV
71	Ste. Therese.....	IV	IV	IV
81	St. Catharines.....	III	IV	IV
87	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	IV
77	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
89	Trail.....	IV	IV	IV
83	Régina.....	IV	IV	IV
85	Edmonton.....	IV	IV	IV
67	Montreal (e).....	IV	IV	IV
87	Toronto (f).....	IV	IV	IV
77	London.....	IV	IV	IV
85	Saskatoon.....	IV	IV	IV
81	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
73	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
79	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV
69	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
77	Kitchener-Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV

(a) Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.

(b) Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

(c) Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

(d) Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

(e) Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Point-aux-Trembles, St. Paul l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

(f) Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

Item	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	50	52	38	95	106	58	69	71	15
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	119,469	109,124	161,118	33	83	110	1,429	1,530	3,521
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	—	162,487	203,348	—	88	164	—	1,890	2,440
3. Total jobs available during month.....	—	271,611	364,463	—	171	274	—	3,420	5,961
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	—	70,193	109,564	—	84	177	—	910	1,375
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	—	93,730	44,278	—	239	98	—	1,083	1,039
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	138,009	119,469	165,147	17	33	58	1,226	1,429	3,514
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	144,619	160,262	76,012	414	508	391	2,986	2,793	539
% female.....	21.1	21.5	30.0	22.9	23.2	42.7	13.1	16.3	23.9
% veterans.....	34.2	34.2	—	51.4	55.9	—	40.0	37.0	—
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	23.2	23.6	—	45.2	52.6	—	23.2	15.2	—
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	133,709	155,592	47,583	397	503	399	2,853	2,793	—
Claimants.....	88,961	102,152	—	333	446	—	1,108	1,172	191
% under 20 years.....	5.8	6.5	—	3.0	7.6	—	10.1	12.3	—
% 20 - 45 ".....	61.1	61.6	—	73.0	65.0	—	60.6	55.5	—
% 45 - 60 ".....	19.2	19.3	—	17.7	22.2	—	18.7	19.2	—
% over 60 ".....	13.9	12.6	—	6.3	5.2	—	10.6	13.0	—
Non-claimants.....	44,748	53,460	—	64	57	—	1,745	1,621	—
% under 20 years.....	20.0	25.2	—	32.8	31.6	—	32.2	33.4	—
% 20 - 45 ".....	62.7	59.9	—	60.9	56.1	—	56.4	56.1	—
% 45 - 60 ".....	13.4	11.4	—	6.3	12.3	—	9.5	8.7	—
% over 60 ".....	3.9	3.5	—	0.0	0.0	—	1.9	1.8	—
2. Applicants registered during month.....	—	145,482	194,587	—	179	174	—	2,385	1,991
3. Total workers available in month.....	—	305,744	270,599	—	687	565	—	5,178	2,830
% referred.....	—	35.4	57.7	—	16.6	42.7	—	29.3	79.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	141,931	144,619	97,611	390	414	345	2,957	2,986	689
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	2,817	2,808	2,776	4,100	3,900	5,900	42,700	41,900	45,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ".....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29.51	29.98
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	—	25,759	23,281	—	17,030	4,790	—	460,035	156,595

Note: Figures for Canada re wage and salary workers and building permits are in thousands.

Area Studies

The following individual studies of forty-one selected local areas present aspects of the current situation which are not reflected in the statistical material.

Amherst

Little demand exists for agricultural workers. Twenty apple pickers have been dispatched recently to Annapolis Valley and about 100 are still waiting to be called, although many of those who signified intentions of going a month ago have since secured employment in the Amherst area. Production and employment in coal mining remains about the same; one new mine at River Herbert employs about 30 men and as production increases more men are being hired. Material shortages are curbing manufacturing output. There is a scarcity of first class carpenters, but construction work is progressing unexpectedly free of material shortages. Public utilities projects are providing employment for many men. While male applicants are widely distributed over many occupational classifications the greatest number are found as unskilled workers, truck drivers, metalworkers and "white collar" workers. The only demand in these groups is shown by a few orders for heavy labourers. Very light demand exists for female applicants.

Halifax

Agricultural needs are being well looked after. In addition, some 500 unemployed have been recruited for apple picking in Annapolis Valley. The fishing industry is very active with a heavy demand for men in fish processing plants. Teamsters and pulpwood cutters are in strong demand. There has been renewed activity in gold mining in this area recently. Shortages of both labour and material are handicapping the operation of manufacturing plants. Halifax Shipyards Ltd. had a temporary lay-off but operations now are expanding and employment will be increased. A record movement of grain and other commodities through the port is expected this winter. The large surplus of unskilled workers at present in the area should be greatly reduced when port activity increases. Unemployed truck drivers, metalworkers, construction workers, and "white collar" workers now are greatly in excess of the light demand. On the other hand, demand is very high for female applicants in every category and few suitable applicants are available.

New Glasgow and Pictou Sydney Saint John

Item

Sept. 1946 Aug. 1945 Sept. 1946 Aug. 1946 Aug. 1945 Aug. 1946 Aug. 1945

Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....

Jobs:

1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....
2. Vacs. notified during month.....
3. Total jobs available during month.....
4. Jobs filled by referral.....
5. Jobs filled without referral.....
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....

Workers:

1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....
 - % female.....
 - % veterans.....
 - % vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....
- B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....
 - Claimants.....
 - % under 20 years.....
 - % 20 - 45 ".....
 - % 45 - 60 ".....
 - % over 60 ".....
 - Non-claimants.....
 - % under 20 years.....
 - % 20 - 45 ".....
 - % 45 - 60 ".....
 - % over 60 ".....
2. Applicants registered during month.....
3. Total workers available in month.....
 - % referred.....
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....

Employment:

1. Wage and salary workers, first of month....
 2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ..
- Construction:
- Value of building permits (000's).....

	393	355	118	255	257	56	94	88	27
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	60	112	268	402	410	766	728	788	1,115
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	593	1,039	-	842	1,255	-	974	1,541
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	705	1,307	-	1,252	2,021	-	1,762	2,656
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	540	988	-	616	913	-	554	1,119
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	107	40	-	146	62	-	727	218
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	47	60	142	366	402	866	655	728	1,046
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	2,553	2,525	1,016	4,211	4,285	920	2,206	2,339	550
% female.....	8.3	8.2	30.2	12.2	11.2	34.8	6.3	6.9	35.8
% veterans.....	53.3	46.5	-	55.2	56.8	-	51.8	51.8	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	49.0	42.9	-	49.5	50.9	-	39.2	38.6	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	2,541	2,360	1,012	4,087	4,213	825	2,147	2,163	323
Claimants.....	2,317	2,058	-	3,417	3,631	-	1,385	1,372	-
% under 20 years.....	5.8	6.1	-	10.6	10.6	-	7.6	7.9	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	71.7	73.8	-	76.8	76.5	-	61.1	62.9	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	13.9	12.4	-	8.6	8.9	-	21.1	19.0	-
% over 60 ".....	8.6	7.7	-	4.0	4.0	-	10.2	10.2	-
Non-claimants.....	224	302	-	670	582	-	762	791	-
% under 20 years.....	20.1	14.9	-	52.7	39.0	-	24.7	24.8	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	64.3	73.6	-	42.1	55.2	-	62.6	65.4	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	9.4	7.3	-	4.2	4.3	-	9.8	8.2	-
% over 60 ".....	6.2	4.0	-	1.0	1.5	-	2.9	1.6	-
Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,040	1,234	-	1,369	1,554	-	1,376	1,793
Total workers available in month.....	-	3,565	2,250	-	5,654	2,474	-	3,715	2,343
% referred.....	-	18.4	50.3	-	15.1	48.8	-	20.9	63.6
Unplaced apps., end of month.....	2,634	2,553	1,078	4,235	4,211	1,076	2,415	2,206	701
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month....	6,700	7,200	9,100	16,800	16,400	19,100	25,800	25,200	25,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,908	32.90
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	-	22,210	-	124,222	71,945	-	99,615	28,440

New Glasgow - Pictou

All large manufacturing plants (iron and steel) in this area, are seriously affected by the steel strike. Lay-offs are continuing as supplies of steel goods become depleted. Coal mines in the area are all busy with no requirements for labour. Fish plants are all operating full-time with no shortage of help reported. At the moment forestry operations have very few openings for labour, until the winter cut commences in a month or so. No further building projects will be started this fall unless the material supply situation improves. There is plenty of construction labour available with the exception of a few first class carpenters, because of the slump in activity. Overall demand for workers in this area is practically non-existent. In short, with the exception of a call for one butcher, one sales clerk, three loggers and five unskilled workers, there is no reported demand for the large number of applicants registered with the local employment office. While unplaced female workers are by no means so numerous, demand is extremely light, with the exception of service workers.

Sydney

The Sydney steel plant still is tied up by the national steel strike, and employment operations reflect a lower trend. All coal mines in the area are working steadily although output is only about two-thirds of normal. About 265 first class miners still are needed. Although local output of lumber is high, the supply is far short of demand and construction is seriously retarded by this and other shortages. The sword-fishing season has rounded off and most men are turning to the regular fishing schedule. Qualified fish cutters are in strong demand. The expectation that 1,000 men would be employed in the Annapolis Valley for apple picking will not be realized, as adequate labour has been secured locally. With the exception of the requirement for miners there is no other demand for more than ten men in any one trade classification, in contrast to the hundreds of applicants available. In the case of female workers, demand is correspondingly light, even for service workers. In no case does demand exceed supply in any trade classification.

Saint John

Agricultural labour requirements now are very small, and fishing is also slack. The large number of vacancies for loggers will probably be filled by farmers as the season's activities draw to a close. Manufacturing in this area is very quiet because of the lack of raw materials. Construction activity is apparently progressing favourably despite reported shortages of materials. There is a definite shortage of bricklayers and masons. Transportation, both land and water, still is very slack. One laundry has adopted the policy of replacing a female night shift by male labour, largely because of the shortage of female labour. Job opportunities in Saint John, except for loggers and construction workers are few in number compared to unplaced applicants. The number of male unskilled workers, seamen, truck drivers, metalworkers and "white collar" workers represents about 84 per cent of all unplaced applicants. Demand for female workers, on the other hand, is substantial in all categories.

Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	57	52	99	112	154	57	26	29	45
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	816	1,200	687	240	164	330	19,486	19,371	37,363
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,160	1,044	-	396	835	-	13,734	28,812
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	2,360	1,731	-	560	1,165	-	33,105	66,175
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	133	698	-	132	591	-	4,990	11,313
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	1,191	123	-	411	132	-	14,285	7,688
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	595	816	677	600	240	396	20,223	19,486	37,565
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	377	410	1,127	1,454	1,293	447	13,513	16,099	11,936
% female.....	32.9	30.5	8.4	16.1	16.1	15.0	12.6	14.1	17.6
% veterans.....	13.0	9.3	-	32.9	37.4	-	21.6	22.0	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	6.9	8.5	-	29.0	32.5	-	8.6	11.4	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	326	407	890	1,416	1,241	312	12,239	17,362	4,060
Claimants.....	233	317	-	1,017	983	-	8,872	12,902	-
% under 20 years.....	5.5	8.5	-	6.8	6.8	-	4.8	5.6	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	70.0	68.5	-	71.4	70.7	-	48.9	55.7	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	17.2	18.6	-	14.5	15.8	-	21.0	20.8	-
% over 60 ".....	7.3	4.4	-	7.3	6.7	-	25.3	17.9	-
Non-claimants.....	93	90	-	399	258	-	3,367	4,460	-
% under 20 years.....	32.3	35.6	-	30.6	36.8	-	12.3	14.8	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	50.3	54.4	-	57.6	55.0	-	65.2	68.1	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	12.9	8.9	-	9.8	4.7	-	15.5	12.5	-
% over 60 ".....	4.3	1.1	-	2.0	3.5	-	7.0	4.6	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	496	1,141	-	915	974	-	18,203	32,131
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	906	2,268	-	2,208	1,421	-	34,302	44,117
% referred.....	-	24.2	45.0	-	11.7	50.5	-	31.2	50.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	407	377	829	1,090	1,464	537	12,420	13,513	21,208
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	7,100	7,300	8,400	9,700	9,500	9,500	479,100	466,800	473,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " ".....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31.99	33.03
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	171,900	15,575	-	62,325	86,415	-	5,566,535	3,774,178

Chicoutimi

The pulpwood cutting operations have begun. The number of cords to be cut is expected to be much higher than it has been for the past five years. About 1500 bush workers now are engaged with an equal number still required. The demand for labour should be even greater in the next two months. The scheduled reopening in September of a potroom at the Aluminum Company of Canada has been delayed indefinitely. This is in addition to the opening scheduled for August. The potrooms slated for reopening in October and November may not be opened if the strike in the caustic soda industry continues. No lay-offs have been made, but may be likely in the future if the situation remains unchanged. Lack of material is acute in construction. Both public and private construction projects have been delayed, but work still is going ahead on the Quebec-Laterrière Highway. No separations are expected before November. Female applicants, most of whom want clerical or sales work still exceed jobs available. Housemaids, cooks, waitresses, and bilingual stenographers are the main occupations for which there is any demand.

Hull

The employment picture is brighter than it has been for the past few months. The improvement is due to a large degree to renewed activity in the pulp and paper industry. About 1,000 pulpwood cutters will be placed. Both salaries and working conditions have improved in this industry. The labour shortage of the past years is probably the chief cause of the improvement. Employment in the construction industry is increasing although building is greatly hampered by material shortages. Woods Manufacturing Company, manufacturer of canvas goods, has installed new sewing-machines, which are some of the most modern in Canada. With the new machines, it is estimated that at least 90 per cent of the employees will be able to make a minimum salary of 50 cents an hour. Orders for stenographers are again being received. The Civil Service has established free "refresher" courses for those who have had training in stenography, but have not kept up their shorthand or typing. Women applying for clerical positions, for whom there are few openings, may in this way become qualified for stenographic jobs, in which there is greater demand.

Montreal

The annual seasonal increase in the staff of the packing houses has proceeded regularly. Little difficulty has been experienced in securing unskilled help. The provision of extra butchers, boners, and knifemen has been more difficult. The entire industry is working at a reduced pace due to immediate uncertainty in labour relations. Recruiting for woods operations has been active. The response has been greater than last year, probably because of unsettled conditions in other industries. It is noticeable in Montreal that there is little unemployment among construction tradesmen, despite the curtailment of many building projects by material shortages. The expansion in construction has been so great that tradesmen change from job to job as material becomes available. It would seem that if material becomes available to all projects there will be an extreme shortage of labour in the industry. The prolongation of the steel strike continues to affect manufacturing adversely. Lay-offs have become a daily occurrence in plants dependent for their operations on supplies of steel. In the service industries the marked shortage of hotel, restaurant and domestic workers has caused some employers to turn their attention to Newfoundland as a possible source of supply. The closing of summer resorts and country hotels may help the situation. The exceptionally fine weather, however, has meant that the closing of many of these resorts and hotels has been delayed.

Item	Quebec		Shawinigan Falls		Sherbrooke	
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	115	126	84	88	64	14
Jobs:						
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	1,612	1,637	2,529	6	70	493
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	2,450	3,559	78	210	984
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	4,087	6,088	-	280	1,477
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	1,168	2,399	47	133	629
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	2,684	1,368	312	291	473
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	2,140	1,612	2,228	27	91	607
Workers:						
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	8,393	9,237	5,849	970	618	449
% female.....	37.7	37.3	47.1	33.7	26.2	20.5
% veterans.....	21.3	18.5	-	13.1	-	32.8
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	16.6	14.7	-	12.8	-	24.7
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	8,181	9,334	5,506	956	516	259
Claimants.....	6,141	7,138	-	907	-	131
% under 20 years.....	9.8	9.9	-	10.4	-	1.1
% 20 - 45 ".....	74.7	74.4	-	72.6	-	56.7
% 45 - 60 ".....	10.6	11.0	-	8.6	-	24.4
% over 60 ".....	4.9	4.7	-	7.9	-	17.8
Non-claimants.....	2,040	2,196	-	59	-	128
% under 20 years.....	23.3	21.2	-	17.8	-	21.7
% 20 - 45 ".....	65.7	66.7	-	66.1	-	71.0
% 45 - 60 ".....	8.4	8.7	-	11.3	-	5.1
% over 60 ".....	2.6	3.4	-	4.8	-	2.2
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	3,849	6,343	323	477	468
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	13,086	12,192	1,320	1,095	731
% referred.....	-	16.7	26.9	4.8	24.7	60.1
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	7,855	8,393	6,782	970	742	271
Employment:						
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	68,500	66,800	80,500	11,000	11,600	19,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	23.27	31.63	-	-	-
Construction:						
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	1,036,355	1,259,450	53,050	334,150	469,725

Quebec

The employment picture in Quebec is becoming more and more encouraging. The number of applicants continues to fall, while vacancies increase. Primary industry, forestry and mining, is expanding, as is secondary industry within the confines of material scarcities. Some four hundred men have been recruited for the potato harvest in Maine. Little trouble has been encountered in securing workers and an additional number will be sent. Orders for cutters in woods operations are increasing as the winter season approaches. It has been estimated that operations will be considerably greater than last year. Miners are wanted in the Abitibi area. Few experienced men are available, and many cannot meet the required physical standards. Some are waiting to see what the working and living conditions are like before deciding to accept the work. However, if reports are favourable a good number of the unemployed should find work in the mines. The situation in the construction industry continues to deteriorate. Materials are scarcer, consequently unemployment here is climbing. Nevertheless, the number and value of new construction projects continues to rise. Manufacturing shows renewed activity. Tobacco companies have increased their demand for women; shoe and glove companies are hiring additional personnel; the garment industry is expanding production in spite of the dearth of experienced textile workers.

Shawinigan Falls

The employment picture has not changed markedly in the last month. Canadian Industries Limited, Shawinigan Chemicals Limited, and the Aluminum Company of Canada Limited, the largest concerns in the area, are all maintaining employment except for a small temporary lay-off in the aluminum industry. Construction, very active despite frequent stoppages, has declined slightly, because of material shortages. A heavy demand has been built up for loggers. Applicants are more willing to accept this work than at this time last year although demand has by no means been met. Some 167 agricultural workers have been sent to work in the states of New York and New Hampshire. Most of the male applicants are unskilled workers, metalworkers, millwrights, electricians, clerical, and service workers. Unplaced female applicants are numerous, and vacancies are very scarce.

Sherbrooke

Forestry applicants, not having been issued bonds for permission to go to the United States, are circumnavigating this order by going to Coaticook. This office is permitted a quota for men to work in U.S. camps. The textile industry shows signs of expansion but lack of male and female apprentices is still acute with no sign of improving. A new industry manufacturing synthetic leather and plastics will be established, creating further demand for workers. Management of iron and steel plants is greatly concerned about effects of the current lack of steel; lay-offs are contemplated unless supplies become available soon. Lack of nails, cement and other construction materials is causing a reduction in requirements for construction labour. Volume of business in both the retail and wholesale trade is substantial and a shortage of female clerks still exists. Unemployment has been reduced to a very low level. The surplus of unskilled workers, clerical and service workers continues. Demand is very high for female workers with very few suitable applicants available.

Item	Sorel			Ste. Therese			Three Rivers		
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed)	70	76	56	39	39	18	84	81	64
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	50	89	284	200	231	359	140	180	409
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	337	433	-	425	399	-	614	1,027
3. Total jobs available during month	-	426	717	-	656	758	-	794	1,436
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	74	293	-	298	232	-	234	649
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	222	5	-	103	20	-	810	301
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	140	50	214	173	200	407	265	140	414
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	616	754	207	165	185	102	2,974	2,759	1,757
% female	17.0	19.5	16.4	51.5	56.2	38.2	21.6	26.4	35.3
% veterans	10.4	9.3	-	9.7	7.6	-	15.4	14.1	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	9.6	8.5	-	4.2	3.8	-	11.0	9.8	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	600	736	159	145	170	47	2,871	2,552	1,827
Claimants	551	717	-	140	161	-	1,421	1,390	-
% under 20 years	9.1	11.3	-	3.6	5.6	-	13.4	13.2	-
% 20 - 45 "	68.1	63.2	-	62.1	64.0	-	72.1	72.0	-
% 45 - 60 "	13.6	15.9	-	17.9	13.0	-	9.6	10.2	-
% over 60 "	9.2	9.6	-	16.4	17.4	-	4.9	4.6	-
Non-claimants	49	19	-	5	9	-	1,450	1,162	-
% under 20 years	6.1	5.3	-	5	55.6	-	26.5	33.8	-
% 20 - 45 "	67.4	63.2	-	6	44.4	-	59.2	53.0	-
% 45 - 60 "	22.4	21.0	-	2	0.0	-	11.5	11.2	-
% over 60 "	4.1	10.5	-	2	0.0	-	2.8	2.0	-
Applicants registered during month	-	446	1,130	-	335	346	-	1,288	2,240
3. Total workers available in month	-	1,200	1,337	-	520	448	-	4,047	3,997
% referred	-	10.3	30.8	-	56.3	71.7	-	9.0	22.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	560	616	525	165	165	107	3,115	2,974	2,240
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	6,000	8,100	9,400	4,200	4,200	5,800	37,000	36,900	35,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.24	30.69
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	-	7,990	-	-	-	-	73,985	265,350

Sorel

Manufacturing employment, now chiefly dependent on the shipbuilding industry has had many ups and downs in recent months, entirely because of material shortages. The many attempts to build up a desired staff of 3,000 men in the shipbuilding industry have been frustrated each time, and while this industry now employs about 2,000 men, unless the supply situation improves many will be laid-off. The steel foundries in this city still are working normally. The construction of two hospitals is progressing slowly, curbed by current shortages, and aside from a scarcity of bricklayers, labour requirements are very low. The largest surpluses of male labour are metalworkers, unskilled workers, and miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers for whom there is very little demand at the moment. There is virtually no demand for female applicants.

Ste. Therese

The slight overall labour shortage apparent since June has persisted throughout September. The major part of the demand for men is for unskilled heavy labour and light factory labour; for women it is for sewing machine operators and unskilled labour. The Commonwealth Plywood Company and Industrial Steel and Fibre Products are the chief sources of new job opportunities. Both are expanding production. The R.C.O.C. at Bouchard, experiencing a high rate of turnover among employees, has continued to file orders for labourers. The men, knowing that employment is temporary, are leaving whenever an opportunity for permanent employment is offered. A new canning plant has begun operations with an initial staff of 35 employees. It will continue until December but expects to operate from eight to ten months next year with good prospects of employment.

Three Rivers

Placements have been extremely slow during the past month principally because of the lack of activity in the construction industry, which at the beginning of the summer, promised to do so much to reduce unemployment in the Three Rivers area. Many contractors have been forced to suspend operations until such supplies as nails, cement, etc. are more plentiful. Dominion Foils Limited recently cut down its staff, releasing approximately 80 workers. Labour turnover in the pulp and paper industry is low, and employment has remained stable during the past few months. There were only 265 vacancies for 3,115 men in Three Rivers as at September 26. Male unplaced applicants are heavily concentrated in the following groups: service workers, electricians, carpenters, machinists, welders, mechanics, and labourers. Female job seekers outnumber vacancies by about five to one, with clerical workers, sales workers, skilled and semi-skilled textile workers, and unskilled factory workers in surplus supply.

Item	Valleyfield			Brantford			Collingwood		
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed)	344	489	106	18	20	23	108	161	42
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	28	329	725	712	682	677	36	50	58
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	160	909	-	1,034	1,610	-	78	166
3. Total jobs available during month	-	489	1,634	-	1,716	2,287	-	128	224
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	142	342	-	465	882	-	51	100
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	205	103	-	533	248	-	295	88
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	384	28	842	630	712	1,105	68	36	101
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	1,124	2,914	293	326	358	193	209	247	23
% female	28.4	32.2	17.7	41.1	48.3	48.2	19.6	21.1	4.3
% veterans	14.1	8.1	-	23.6	21.5	-	33.0	32.0	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	10.9	6.7	-	15.6	13.7	-	28.7	29.6	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.	1,118	3,124	216	300	358	112	209	242	32
Claimants	1,011	2,462	-	182	239	-	209	242	-
% under 20 years	12.7	17.5	-	2.2	2.5	-	2.4	3.3	-
% 20 - 45 "	59.2	60.4	-	40.7	36.8	-	49.3	57.0	-
% 45 - 60 "	20.9	18.8	-	19.2	29.3	-	31.6	27.3	-
% over 60 "	7.2	3.3	-	37.9	31.4	-	16.7	12.4	-
Non-claimants	107	662	-	118	119	-	0.0	0.0	-
% under 20 years	16.8	23.9	-	20.3	22.7	-	0.0	0.0	-
% 20 - 45 "	51.4	58.8	-	63.6	58.0	-	0.0	0.0	-
% 45 - 60 "	18.7	14.9	-	12.7	18.5	-	0.0	0.0	-
% over 60 "	13.1	2.4	-	3.4	0.8	-	0.0	0.0	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	349	1,151	-	556	1,337	-	8.2	181
3. Total workers available in month	-	3,263	1,444	-	914	1,530	-	329	204
% referred	-	5.9	38.6	-	55.5	84.5	-	16.4	61.8
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	791	1,124	688	301	326	376	173	209	75
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month .	2,300	2,300	6,500	16,900	16,500	16,100	1,600	1,300	1,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of buildings permits (000's)	-	339,865	188,803	-	55,339	34,055	-	-	-

Valleyfield

Montreal Cottons Limited resumed operations on September 7, after a 14 week strike involving some 2,700 employees. During this period a number of strikers left Valleyfield to seek work elsewhere, creating a labour shortage at Montreal Cottons. Other textile factories in the area are operating normally, their labour requirements being satisfactorily met. Several new industries located in Valleyfield plan to start production this fall. It is expected accordingly that there will be an increased demand for female unskilled workers. The Foundation Company of Canada and other building contractors report that work on construction projects is being seriously retarded by shortages of materials. About 800 to 1,000 construction workers now are employed in Valleyfield. The majority of vacancies for male workers are in the following categories: spinners, twisters, weavers, and unskilled textile workers. Several hundred heavy labourers are without jobs at the present time. In the female labour field, carders, drawers, spinners, twisters, and other skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled textile workers are in short supply.

Brantford

Employment expansion in the food processing industries has aggravated the labour shortage in Brantford in spite of the slight deterioration in manufacturing employment caused by the steel shortage. Canada Packers has placed orders for both men and women for processing corn and peaches and is finding labour difficult to obtain for this temporary work. Increased supplies of sugar and glucose have led to an augmented demand for men and women by the William Pater-son Company, confectionery manufacturers. Several departments that were closed during the war years have been reopened. The demand in heavy industry for moulders, coremakers, foundry labourers, and wood and metal patternmakers springs largely from expanding production in the Massey-Harris plant. Otherwise, in spite of numerous orders on hand, manufacturing firms are hesitant to hire additional men because of low stocks of materials. The prevalent labour shortage is evident in fields other than manufacturing. Experienced stenographers and typists are scarce; waitresses, kitchen helpers, cooks and counter girls are unobtainable; and it would seem that domestic help is non-existent.

Collingwood

Demand for labour in agriculture is increasing. Though harvesting of field crops is almost completed in the area, the harvest of tomatoes and other market garden crops, which has been slowed by wet weather, now is proceeding apace. Cannerymen are steadily employed canning imported and home grown fruits. No shortage of labour is apparent here. The steel strike remains the dominating feature in the shipbuilding industry. Lay-offs are feared when present short stocks of steel become depleted. However, when steel is forthcoming it is expected that the industry will settle down to a period of increased employment, with several contracts on hand. One ship has just satisfactorily completed her trial runs and the yard has started to manufacture cement mixers. Globe Plywood is going full steam in production of furniture on overseas order. They are still increasing their personnel, but construction on their plant is being held up by lack of building materials. Woodcraft Industries, engaged in manufacturing display furniture, are in the process of installing machinery in the plant they have just purchased. With the procurement of the new plant they expect to increase their staff to about forty.

Item	Fort Erie			Ft. William & Pt. Arthur			Hamilton		
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	146	165	128	56	84	58	75	76	21
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	47	71	277	7,576	5,557	4,958	1,523	1,227	4,553
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	136	135	-	5,273	4,556	-	2,731	5,684
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	209	412	-	10,830	9,514	-	3,958	10,237
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	115	77	-	1,149	1,768	-	1,257	2,830
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	13	25	-	2,297	1,098	-	1,444	1,057
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	30	47	181	8,500	7,576	5,993	1,640	1,523	5,320
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	198	183	118	1,994	2,132	804	5,293	4,934	1,390
% female.....	47.0	62.3	25.4	39.5	41.3	12.4	25.5	26.1	17.3
% veterans.....	22.7	12.0	-	19.3	22.9	-	35.1	24.3	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	5.6	9.8	-	7.4	11.0	-	19.4	6.2	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	197	171	42	1,797	2,260	375	5,043	4,712	997
Claimants.....	135	90	-	1,171	1,639	-	3,649	3,184	-
% under 20 years.....	5.2	1.1	-	5.1	5.9	-	8.5	9.5	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	67.4	72.2	-	68.4	67.6	-	59.2	55.8	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	15.5	7.8	-	14.4	15.5	-	21.0	19.8	-
% over 60 ".....	11.9	18.9	-	12.1	11.0	-	11.3	14.9	-
Non-claimants.....	62	81	-	626	571	-	1,394	1,528	-
% under 20 years.....	29.0	24.7	-	17.7	28.2	-	17.1	27.2	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	61.3	69.1	-	65.2	56.6	-	67.1	56.3	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	8.1	3.7	-	11.0	12.1	-	11.8	11.1	-
% over 60 ".....	1.6	2.5	-	6.1	3.1	-	4.0	5.4	-
Applicants registered during month.....	-	186	205	-	1,914	1,692	-	4,106	4,707
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	369	323	-	4,046	2,496	-	9,040	6,097
% referred.....	-	72.6	31.6	-	31.0	98.1	-	32.7	73.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	175	198	115	1,740	1,994	1,418	5,207	5,293	1,718
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	1,200	1,200	900	31,000	23,600	24,600	69,500	69,700	80,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ".....	-	-	-	-	35.67	39.66	-	32.80	34.25
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	30,250	-	-	489,419	235,261	-	583,471	231,217

Fort Erie

Labour demand in Fort Erie slackened off considerably during September. This may be partially attributed to the seasonal moderation of farming activity and tourist trade but is mainly due to the fact that local industry is hard hit by the shortage of steel. The anticipated lay-off of 140 men from the Horton Steel Works Limited did not take place, but production in this plant has been sharply curtailed. Fleet Aircraft Limited, under new management, plans to manufacture cabin trailers, reconverting part of their aircraft plant for the purpose. This company expects to start production in the latter part of 1946. Currently, few positions are offered for male workers, with the exception of several vacancies for professional and managerial workers, carpenters and skilled and semi-skilled metalworkers. In the female labour field there are a number of job openings for clerical workers, service workers, and general factory helpers.

Fort William - Port Arthur

Demand for men in logging and pulpwood operations is high. Port Arthur reports that the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union has taken a strike vote and unless an agreement is reached operations along these lines will cease. Mining requirements call for 400 men. The iron and steel industry has been hard hit by material shortages, principally a lack of steel, which has reduced employment considerably. Pulp and paper and lumber operations in which greater employment is centred, have not been affected, and are on the upgrade. Lake and railway traffic is active, and many men are actively engaged. Bricklayers, carpenters, and steam fitters are in strong demand. Physically fit labourers are required by nearly all construction firms but suitable applicants are scarce. The majority of labourers are registered as light factory workers. Builders are endeavouring to make as many buildings as possible habitable by winter though they may be incomplete. Demand is heavy for male workers in this district. There is a marked shortage of loggers, construction tradesmen, and unskilled workers. Unplaced applicants in other categories are relatively few. A substantial surplus of female clerical and sales workers exists in the area.

Hamilton

The steel strike continues and the consequent wage losses are affecting the entire area. Retail stores have been hard hit by the local strikes, with a consequent diminution in orders for labour. The construction industry has also been severely affected, not only by the local strike, but also by prevalent shortages of various materials. New projects are being either abandoned or delayed. Experienced bricklayers, plasterers, and plumbers are still urgently needed, however. The one bright spot is the gypsum plant, which is operating 24 hours per day in the gypsum and wallboard divisions. Production in the rock wool division is also very high, because the company was able to obtain large supplies of coke and slag, the raw materials of production, from Buffalo. Ordinarily supplies would have been secured from the strikebound steel company. Demand for female labour still is heavy in the textile industry. The seasonal peak in canning plants now has been reached with unusually high demand for women. The local employment office suggested that men be hired for certain duties. This has been done and has proved quite successful.

Item	Kingston			Kitchen-Waterloo			London		
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1945	Aug. 1945
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	34	31	15	8	9	3	23	23	31
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	342	422	596	799	891	1,544	1,603	1,576	1,784
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	908	1,063	-	1,037	2,325	-	2,502	3,021
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	1,330	1,659	-	1,928	3,869	-	4,174	4,805
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	570	619	-	356	812	-	1,130	1,411
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	279	88	-	680	149	-	1,182	574
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	418	342	703	925	799	1,656	2,028	1,693	1,978
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	532	579	268	267	323	103	764	858	604
% female.....	28.4	25.9	49.6	19.5	10.5	21.4	24.7	21.3	35.8
% veterans.....	30.1	33.2	-	41.9	35.6	-	29.6	43.4	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	25.2	27.8	-	11.2	9.9	-	12.4	23.4	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	482	544	187	213	278	26	657	797	390
Claimants.....	195	229	-	92	78	-	251	291	-
% under 20 years.....	1.0	3.0	-	4.4	5.1	-	0.4	1.0	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	39.0	38.4	-	39.1	50.0	-	18.7	20.6	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	26.7	29.3	-	26.1	16.7	-	24.3	26.8	-
% over 60 ".....	33.3	29.3	-	30.4	28.2	-	56.6	51.6	-
Non-claimants.....	287	315	-	121	200	-	406	506	-
% under 20 years.....	31.7	32.4	-	21.5	22.0	-	22.2	27.1	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	55.4	57.8	-	66.9	60.0	-	54.9	49.0	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	9.8	5.7	-	9.1	14.5	-	18.0	19.0	-
% over 60 ".....	3.1	4.1	-	2.5	3.5	-	4.9	4.9	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	807	838	-	527	957	-	1,875	2,882
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,386	1,106	-	850	1,060	-	2,733	3,486
% referred.....	-	67.9	100.4	-	68.6	92.8	-	66.7	75.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	584	532	263	244	267	106	781	764	901
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	17,400	17,400	17,200	29,700	29,000	33,000	33,500	32,100	29,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ".....	-	-	-	-	30.71	29.49	-	30.93	30.66
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	469,920	76,190	-	133,054	350,412	-	293,605	138,100

Kingston

Manufacturing in the Kingston area is in much the same position as it was in August. The Aluminum Company of Canada remains the only employer of any considerable number of men. Putting a department on three shifts has necessitated the hiring of several hundred additional employees. In shipbuilding, men are being laid-off because there is insufficient steel on hand to proceed with the work. The Canadian Locomotive Company, working a four day week, is also suffering from low steel stocks. The leather industry has found that the type of worker required for the "heavy wet" department is difficult to procure. Although there is a surplus of labour in such occupations as riveting, welding, and machining, there is no supply of factory labour on which to draw. In construction all trades are in heavy demand with the exception of electricians. There is a decided shortage of carpenters and bricklayers. Demand for experienced stenographers and clerks has not lessened and the small supply of applicants are all inexperienced.

Kitchener - Waterloo

There is a steady demand for year-round single male workers for mixed and dairy farms. With the exception of the rubber industry (on strike), virtually all industries have a demand for labour, male or female, depending on the work involved. The degree of demand hinges on the nature and size of the industry. The most urgent and heavier demand is centered in the furniture, construction and transportation (auto mechanics) industries, and that part of the textile industry not affiliated with the rubber industry. It is hard to estimate the vacancy picture. Unfilled vacancies in non-striking industries have declined since many strikers are working either temporarily or permanently in other jobs. Ultimate demand after the rubber strike is settled should be about at par with vacancies before the strike. Unplaced applicants do not greatly overbalance unfilled vacancies; upon settlement of the rubber strike, unfilled vacancies will climb. The shortage of housing is stringent, blocking an influx of workers.

London

The labour shortage in this area persists. Currently there appears to be a general slackening off of activity in the local employment office, reflecting the unsettled labour conditions throughout the industrial world. Those manufacturing plants whose operations depend largely on basic iron and steel products are showing increasing uneasiness as the steel strike drags on; the majority are postponing projected expansion programs and maintaining employment levels by rearranging personnel wherever possible. In the light manufacturing field, industries such as leather goods, textiles and food products manufacturing, although sufficiently well supplied with raw materials, have had to curtail production because of labour shortages. Vacancies for male workers outnumber applicants by two to one. Because very few job seekers are suited for any type of employment, the shortage of male workers is even more acute than it appears. Motor mechanics and labourers are in particularly short supply. Demand for female help remains strong; stenographers, typists, service workers, sewing machine operators and unskilled workers are almost unobtainable.

Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed)	13	23	21	172	207	140	53	57	12
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	1,058	1,217	447	402	546	951	1,656	1,459	2,237
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	848	939	-	645	828	-	2,401	4,776
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	2,065	1,386	-	1,191	1,779	-	3,860	7,013
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	488	616	-	347	490	-	931	2,564
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	563	86	-	398	70	-	1,863	997
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	576	1,058	578	527	402	740	1,783	1,656	2,355
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	389	489	258	3,726	2,297	2,192	3,395	3,486	1,379
% female.....	26.5	29.4	22.5	27.1	40.3	67.7	41.9	31.0	75.4
% veterans.....	15.9	21.1	-	26.3	22.7	-	31.5	44.2	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	9.0	12.5	-	8.6	13.0	-	16.7	28.1	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	368	490	134	3,659	2,171	1,894	3,153	3,577	433
Claimants.....	87	161	-	2,874	1,219	-	1,722	2,201	-
% under 20 years.....	2.3	1.2	-	6.0	9.3	-	2.2	3.5	-
% 20 - 45 "	23.0	36.7	-	65.1	71.7	-	56.5	61.0	-
% 45 - 60 "	19.5	32.3	-	25.4	12.9	-	22.8	18.5	-
% over 60 "	55.2	29.8	-	3.5	6.1	-	18.5	17.0	-
Non-claimants.....	281	329	-	785	952	-	1,431	1,376	-
% under 20 years.....	50.9	49.9	-	18.1	34.3	-	18.1	16.1	-
% 20 - 45 "	35.2	39.5	-	62.9	50.5	-	68.1	71.2	-
% 45 - 60 "	11.4	7.9	-	15.8	11.6	-	9.5	8.9	-
% over 60 "	2.5	2.7	-	3.2	3.6	-	4.3	3.8	-
Applicants registered during month.....	-	577	805	-	2,811	2,231	-	3,308	4,614
2. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,066	1,063	-	5,108	4,423	-	6,794	5,993
% referred.....	-	66.8	81.5	-	12.4	15.8	-	42.7	63.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	242	389	321	3,122	3,726	2,587	3,196	3,395	647
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	18,200	17,100	15,000	18,200	18,000	18,500	60,500	60,000	54,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28.32	37.42
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	-	58,979	-	79,585	65,890	-	434,515	185,235

Niagara Falls

Employment in the Niagara Falls area continued to rise during September, with employment gains in food products manufacturing (canning factories and wineries) compensating for the lack of activity in chemicals and non-ferrous metals manufacturing. The construction industry has become more active of late and recent receipts of building materials have permitted work to be resumed on the Wartime Housing project. Reports indicate that this year's tourist trade has exceeded that of any previous year, and demand for hotel and restaurant help still holds strong. Current job openings for men are chiefly in trade and service, construction, and food products manufacturing. Unskilled labourers are in particularly short supply. In the female labour field, stenographers, sales workers, waitresses, kitchen workers, laundry workers, and unskilled workers are urgently required.

Oshawa

Employees of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company Limited at Bowmanville and Duplate of Canada Limited are still on strike. There is little hope of an immediate settlement of the industrial disputes in these two major industries. General Motors of Canada Limited continues to operate on a day-to-day basis. Lay-offs are threatened at this plant due to material shortages, particularly a lack of steel. This year's corn crop is one of the heaviest on record, and local canning factories are finding it extremely difficult to obtain sufficient help. Despite the fact that unemployment in Oshawa is serious, few applicants will accept work in the canning factories because of the low wage rates prevalent in this industry. The strikes and lay-offs have eased the farm labour shortage. Sufficient workers were readily obtained to assist with the harvest. The ratio of male applicants to jobs available is approximately 4 to 1, with a particularly heavy surplus evident in the unskilled labour class. Female job seekers are largely clerical, sales, and unskilled workers.

Ottawa

The economic structure of the Ottawa area is marked by the relatively small importance of industry. A large proportion of the labour force is employed by government. As at the end of September, women compose over 40 per cent of the unplaced applicants and among the women well over half are applicants for clerical work. There are few orders for typists or clerk-typists, and no orders for clerks where married women are acceptable. However, there is a good demand for qualified stenographers, but few applicants. The source of the problem lies in the release by various government offices of many clerks whose services had been required to handle the enormously increased load of work during the war years and the solution is complicated by several factors. Many of the women are married, and the general policy of both government and private business to look with disfavour on the hiring of married women renders their position difficult. However, some, after exhausting their unemployment insurance benefits, will retire from the labour market. Many of these former government clerks have not the skills to fit readily into a general office position, nor is it probable that business can absorb any great number of them. To place these women in employment, it would seem that it would be necessary to redirect some into other occupations, to train those who will remain in the clerical field, and to induce some to move to areas where the demand for their services is greater than in Ottawa.

Item	Peterborough		St. Catharines		Sault Ste. Marie	
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	21	20	11	45	30	21
Jobs:						
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	408	386	550	1,198	1,144	1,457
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	793	705	1,868	1,520	555
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	1,179	1,255	3,066	2,664	2,012
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	566	576	620	970	508
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	452	241	703	61	99
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	382	408	556	1,584	1,031	1,337
Workers:						
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	470	489	177	1,548	715	207
% female.....	8.9	11.0	43.5	45.9	57.8	84.5
% veterans.....	46.4	40.7	-	22.9	-	6.3
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	27.2	23.9	-	14.4	-	4.3
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	344	374	69	1,537	636	212
Claimants.....	136	192	-	975	-	-
% under 20 years.....	0.7	2.6	-	7.3	-	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	45.6	55.2	-	68.8	-	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	30.2	26.6	-	15.5	-	-
% over 60 ".....	23.5	15.6	-	8.4	-	-
Non-claimants.....	208	182	-	448	-	-
% under 20 years.....	30.8	31.3	-	26.9	-	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	63.5	58.3	-	56.0	-	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	4.3	8.8	-	13.0	-	-
% over 60 ".....	1.4	1.6	-	4.1	-	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	814	712	1,014	1,335	701
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,303	919	2,562	2,050	908
% referred.....	-	70.5	88.7	36.3	61.4	60.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	484	470	213	1,263	837	323
Employment:						
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	22,900	23,000	19,800	28,800	28,100	15,400
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ".....	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction:						
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	114,275	68,929	186,165	119,610	72,787

Peterborough

The prosperous state of manufacturing in this area now is experiencing cut-backs from growing material shortages. Factories using iron and steel have only small supplies left on hand. Serious lay-offs are inevitable if the material supply situation does not improve. The steel shortage has not affected the food and packing plants, which are very busy and taking on many men and women. This employment gain is tied in directly with a substantial increase in wages in the Quaker Oats plant, which resulted in a similar application for an increase on the part of other foodstuffs and packing plants in Peterborough. The work involved is very heavy, making workers reluctant to accept this type of employment at the former wage rates. Construction activity is great, but lack of materials is reducing job opportunities. It is expected that there will be a shortage of help for logging operations now about to commence.

St. Catharines

The secondary industries in the St. Catharines area are facing extreme difficulties in maintaining production because of the increasing shortages of iron and steel, brass, copper and other electrical supplies, rubber, and some textiles. Overall labour demand remains strong; a scarcity of skilled workers has been in evidence for some time and the shortage now has spread to the semi-skilled and unskilled groups. A large proportion of job applicants are unsuited for most types of employment because of age or disability. Shortages of materials have been a limiting factor in the construction industry, but despite this there still is a strong demand for all types of building tradesmen. Most urgently required among male workers are the following: sales workers, farm hands, carpenters, construction labourers, heavy labourers, and unskilled factory workers. In the female labour field, the most pressing labour requirements are for unskilled workers in the fruit and vegetable canning factories. Many types of service workers are also urgently needed and there are shortages of semi-skilled and unskilled workers in many industrial plants. The rate of separation among women remains high. As in the case of male workers these separations are principally at the request of the employee.

Sault Ste. Marie

Demand for farm workers has dwindled to nothing as all harvesting is completed and threshing now is in progress. There are 2,000 vacancies for loggers, and experienced men can easily find gainful employment; an added incentive to prospective workers is the new wage schedule, drawn up by the Abitibi Power and Paper Co., going into immediate effect. Mining companies are fully staffed. Manufacturing (mostly iron and steel), is still tied up by the current steel strike; 75 office workers of Algoma Steel Corporation were given temporary releases. Coal boats are being allowed to unload and the substantial demand for marine firemen and deckhands is being readily filled. Material shortages are responsible for the light demand for construction tradesmen. Employment in Sault Ste. Marie is bearing up well in the face of the steel strike. The employment picture has not deteriorated to any marked extent, with the exception of a surplus of metalworkers and miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, which were practically non-existent before the strike, and the usual surplus of "white collar" workers. Female job applicants, however, are profuse, and vacancies are almost nil.

Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	259	166	55	48	51	42	28	24	25
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	258	318	979	4,830	3,902	5,223	1,138	939	1,098
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,259	2,302	-	9,672	8,462	-	2,467	2,221
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	1,577	3,281	-	13,574	13,685	-	3,406	3,319
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	934	1,786	-	4,961	4,851	-	1,542	1,414
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	631	508	-	3,610	1,986	-	816	463
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	310	258	724	4,891	4,830	6,548	1,048	1,138	1,240
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	8,185	7,947	1,980	7,010	10,168	4,997	711	1,303	899
% female.....	18.8	25.0	41.6	26.6	22.5	36.1	36.4	33.6	38.8
% veterans.....	24.2	27.5	-	40.4	39.7	-	30.9	24.4	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	15.6	24.6	-	27.8	24.6	-	26.3	22.0	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.	8,107	7,370	1,717	6,197	9,453	3,913	597	1,139	816
Claimants.....	6,220	4,585	-	4,015	5,030	-	240	417	-
% under 20 years.....	4.5	9.4	-	3.5	4.0	-	5.0	3.8	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	80.1	68.1	-	62.8	65.3	-	40.4	52.1	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	12.3	17.8	-	16.7	16.7	-	28.3	26.1	-
% over 60 ".....	3.1	4.7	-	17.0	14.0	-	26.3	18.0	-
Non-claimants.....	1,887	2,785	-	2,182	4,423	-	357	722	-
% under 20 years.....	14.4	13.0	-	15.5	38.8	-	30.5	60.0	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	71.3	80.9	-	68.5	50.4	-	55.5	33.1	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	12.1	5.2	-	12.8	8.7	-	11.5	5.8	-
% over 60 ".....	2.2	0.9	-	3.2	2.1	-	2.5	1.1	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	5,253	4,224	-	7,992	7,954	-	2,143	2,117
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	13,200	6,204	-	18,160	12,951	-	3,446	3,016
% referred.....	-	10.6	42.3	-	41.6	58.4	-	67.7	72.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	12,585	8,185	2,934	6,656	7,010	5,286	828	711	702
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	48,500	49,400	53,600	140,000	136,800	126,500	29,800	29,300	28,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ".....	-	37.13	39.64	-	28.10	29.68	-	29.76	31.19
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	1,123,040	129,348	-	898,600	580,550	-	708,800	727,145

Windsor

Currently, the employment picture in Windsor is anything but encouraging. Chrysler Corporation of Canada, Canadian Industries Limited, Truscon Steel Company of Canada Limited, and Brunner, Mond Canada, Limited, still are on strike. Approximately 4,500 employees are involved in these labour disputes. A number of firms which under normal conditions supply parts to the Chrysler Corporation, are closed down temporarily, as a direct result of the automobile workers' strike. Approximately 6,000 Ford Motor Company employees now are on a three to four day week. This company has slowed down production because of the current lack of rubber and steel. The supply of farm labour during this year's harvest season has been adequate to meet demand, apparently because of the lack of jobs in the manufacturing field. Construction continues to be slow. The heavy surplus of skilled and semi-skilled metalworkers and labourers is increasing daily. Demand for female workers is practically nil. Job seekers are most numerous in the clerical, sales, and skilled and semi-skilled metalworker categories.

Winnipeg

Harvest operations are nearing completion. Some harvesters are accepting employment as fall helpers but many are going further west in search of additional harvest work. Because no certificated miners are available, husky, inexperienced men are being taken on. The heavy demand for loggers is being partially met as harvest operations approach completion. There is a heavy demand for workers, principally women, for meat packing and food processing plants, but suitable applicants are scarce. The shortage of workers in all textile plants is causing employers to unite their efforts to induce beginners to accept this type of work. Carpenters, bricklayers, tinsmiths, and sheet metal workers are not available to meet the growing demand. The demand-supply relationship in this area is greatly improved. The number of unplaced applicants are not outstanding, with the exception of the following classifications; "white collar" workers, metalworkers, and miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers. There is a shortage of female service and unskilled workers, and a surplus of clerical and sales workers.

Regina

About 240 eastern harvesters have finished work and returned home; threshing is completed and most districts report a surplus of farm help. Manufacturing in general now is affected by shortages and some fifty men have been laid-off from one packing plant because of the western farm strike. So far no lay-offs have occurred in the construction industry because of lack of building materials. The surplus of harvesters has helped to meet the demand for heavy labour in other fields. At least 60 per cent of the remaining male applicants are over fifty years of age. Most of the unemployment insurance claimants are too old, or lack experience, skill or training. Female stenographers, dictaphone operators, and other machine operators are urgently required. Demand for male workers in Regina outdistances the supply of available applicants almost without exception. Demand for female workers is even higher, with the exception of unskilled workers.

Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	21	23	23	49	52	33	26	29	24
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	899	916	694	1,224	1,141	1,783	2,174	1,854	1,941
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,486	1,172	-	3,262	3,554	-	4,121	4,494
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	2,402	1,866	-	4,403	5,337	-	5,975	6,435
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	810	667	-	1,971	2,111	-	2,338	3,017
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	898	845	-	1,720	752	-	1,944	626
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	725	899	721	1,403	1,224	1,884	2,142	2,174	2,044
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	1,078	1,592	745	2,519	2,565	1,509	2,143	2,855	1,720
% female.....	32.2	33.0	23.6	21.2	21.1	28.8	15.6	17.1	33.3
% veterans.....	40.4	33.2	-	46.3	42.3	-	42.7	46.9	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	25.0	22.9	-	31.1	29.6	-	21.7	20.7	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.	978	1,325	552	2,330	2,595	1,175	1,840	2,730	1,664
Claimants.....	359	497	-	877	1,094	-	860	1,303	-
% under 20 years.....	2.5	4.4	-	3.6	4.7	-	2.1	3.7	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	549	61.2	-	44.7	47.0	-	49.2	54.9	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	23.7	21.3	-	26.5	24.7	-	27.5	26.6	-
% over 60 ".....	18.9	13.1	-	25.2	23.6	-	21.2	14.8	-
Non-claimants.....	619	828	-	1,453	1,501	-	980	1,427	-
% under 20 years.....	21.7	37.9	-	19.0	28.0	-	18.8	37.5	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	64.9	49.2	-	63.1	57.6	-	61.7	48.6	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	11.1	9.8	-	13.1	10.7	-	15.8	11.4	-
% over 60 ".....	2.3	3.1	-	4.8	3.7	-	3.7	2.5	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,671	2,267	-	3,267	3,201	-	3,821	4,145
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	3,263	3,012	-	5,832	4,710	-	6,676	5,865
% referred.....	-	39.3	34.4	-	50.2	59.5	-	50.4	71.2
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	967	1,078	883	2,407	2,519	1,470	1,922	2,143	1,498
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	46,600	45,900	37,600	49,400	48,800	44,300	73,400	71,800	62,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	29.05	27.39	-	32.09	33.45	-	30.62	31.32
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	623,455	275,445	-	528,444	825,398	-	957,379	688,342

Saskatoon

Some 600 men were placed in harvest operations which now are about 60 per cent completed in this area. Some of these men, no longer required in farm employment, are applying for mine and bush work. Packing plants laid-off several hundred men because of the present low run of livestock. Poultry producers will soon expand operations. The two large flour milling concerns now are operating at capacity. Building construction in this city is surprisingly free of material shortages and some 500 houses are in stages of completion which will enable work to progress regardless of weather. There is a scarcity of various skilled help and heavy labourers. Railways have a large building program laid out and this work will carry on despite material shortages as most of the required material is already in stock. Iron and steel foundries now are operating on a skeleton staff because of the steel strike. Demand for labour, male and female, is substantial. The surplus of male unskilled workers can be accounted for by the fact that while demand is high for construction and "other heavy" labourers, most of the applicants are registered as light factory labourers.

Calgary

Harvesting has reached its peak; 200 eastern harvesters now are employed. The farmers non-delivery strike has cut hog receipts to one quarter of the normal quota, but as cattle receipts have been fairly well maintained no lay-offs from packing plants are contemplated yet. All foundry strikes now have been settled. Men working for Dominion Bridge Co. Ltd. and Riverside Iron Works Ltd., have returned to work. Building construction is progressing slowly and while skilled carpenters and plasterers are scarce, some labourers have been laid-off because of scarcity of materials. Public works projects on street repairs have been postponed because of the shortage of cement. The only surpluses of male labour in which demand is low are classified as "white collar" workers, truck drivers, electrical workers, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled, and unskilled workers. In the case of unskilled workers, while demand is high for construction and "other heavy" labour, most of the applicants are registered as light factory labourers. Demand for female help is high for domestics, and low for clerical workers.

Edmonton

Harvesting is general and some threshing has commenced. Heavy lay-offs from packing plants caused by the farmers non-delivery strike, together with the help of eastern harvesters will result in all farm vacancies being filled in the next few days. Men for logging camps and railway maintenance work will remain hard to obtain until harvesting is rounded off. All coal mines could use more certificated miners if they were available. Some hard rock miners are being sent to Yellowknife. Bricklayers, plasterers, and first class carpenters are required in the construction industry. Everything possible is being done to supply materials for veterans housing projects. Placement of physically handicapped persons has been very satisfactory. Labour demand and supply in this area is numerically balanced but occupationally there is a surplus of clerical, service, and other skilled and semi-skilled workers. There is a pressing demand for female service workers. In contrast, demand is low for clerical workers.

Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	35	40	20	24	28	23	72	97	23
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	3,088	2,207	4,007	16,893	14,985	24,975	245	299	1,819
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	4,486	3,807	-	22,879	27,053	-	535	936
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	6,693	7,814	-	37,864	52,028	-	834	2,755
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	1,137	1,289	-	8,173	12,704	-	342	530
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	1,092	386	-	10,259	4,514	-	134	82
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	2,589	3,088	2,037	19,447	16,893	22,673	333	245	1,149
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	1,076	1,159	455	10,538	10,436	7,448	777	941	144
% female.....	37.5	36.2	42.0	9.4	8.4	12.8	60.5	55.9	63.2
% veterans.....	22.0	19.3	-	43.5	45.0	-	12.6	16.9	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	10.4	13.2	-	28.0	28.3	-	5.7	8.1	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	795	860	312	9,768	10,315	2,128	725	1,036	91
Claimants.....	449	508	-	6,219	6,351	-	418	649	-
% under 20 years.....	6.4	4.7	-	1.8	1.8	-	6.5	7.6	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	66.8	70.3	-	39.9	41.9	5	67.7	68.9	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	14.3	15.0	-	27.5	33.2	-	18.4	16.3	-
% over 60 ".....	12.5	10.0	-	30.8	23.1	-	7.4	7.2	-
Non-claimants.....	346	352	-	3,549	3,964	-	307	387	-
% under 20 years.....	32.9	31.0	-	9.8	12.2	-	27.7	22.2	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	56.4	54.8	-	66.3	70.1	-	56.0	61.0	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	6.4	11.9	-	18.2	13.7	-	11.7	14.5	-
% over 60 ".....	4.3	2.3	-	5.7	4.0	-	4.6	2.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,557	1,779	-	13,863	20,159	-	605	790
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	2,716	2,234	-	24,299	27,607	-	1,546	934
% referred.....	-	55.9	168.3	-	53.1	70.0	-	38.9	76.2
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	1,022	1,076	633	9,250	10,538	8,827	572	777	243
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month...	29,600	26,700	32,100	385,300	373,500	380,100	7,900	8,000	10,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	36.54	34.08	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	104,975	127,475	-	2,776,784	1,550,060	-	7,850	43,020

Sudbury

The labour shortage in this area has eased slightly and requirements for forestry operations are gradually being filled. Base metal mines continue to be active, with an estimated 800 men needed to satisfy current demand. Residential construction has been seriously retarded by the lack of building materials, thus labour demand in this industry has slackened off considerably. Lack of living accommodation is a definite drawback to increased employment in the Sudbury area. One local employer reports that he is losing good men daily because there are no houses available for the workers' families. Railway maintenance men are urgently required, but owing to the comparatively low wage rates and the seasonal nature of the work, it is difficult to persuade applicants to accept the jobs offered. Among male workers, loggers, miners, and heavy labourers are most urgently required. While there is a fair demand for female service workers, labour supply exceeds demand in all other occupational categories.

Toronto

Strikes and material shortages have affected vacancies in heavy industry. Orders for skilled tradesmen have lagged, but most employers contemplating lay-offs are holding on to their skilled men. Several firms plan large increases in personnel as soon as present labour relations are stabilized. The demand from construction companies for carpenters, bricklayers, cement finishers, plasterers, licensed plumbers, and tinsmiths far exceeds the supply. However, a certain number of trainees graduating from the Rehabilitation School have not been placed because of work curtailment resulting from the scarcity of building materials. Orders from mining companies and from pulp and paper companies reflect the increasing need for men in the primary industries. The general picture in the women's division shows the usual shortage. Numerous orders for stenographers, clerks, and clerk-typists are on hand, with little hope of filling any large portion of them. Several companies are gravely concerned over the anticipated change in the income tax regulations covering employed married women. Some firms have already adopted the plan of substituting male help for female where possible. In the textile trade employers feel that a number of factories will be crippled if married women workers carry out their stated intentions of stopping work when the tax regulations come into effect.

Welland

Canning factory labour requirements have been fairly well met and orders now are beginning to taper off. Local textile factories are desperately in need of skilled workers; the Woods Manufacturing Company Limited in accordance with provincial labour laws will discontinue the practice of employing women on the night shift after September 30. It is extremely doubtful that male workers will be found to replace these women. Employees of the Electro Metallurgical Company of Canada, 1,300 in number, are still on strike. Construction work continues to be affected by the shortage of materials, with very little prospect of any change in the present situation. Orders for machinists, construction labourers and other heavy labourers are difficult to fill. Although female textile workers and service workers are in short supply, there are a number of unplaced applicants in the clerical and sales worker categories.

Item	Trail			Vancouver			Victoria		
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Aug. 1945
Ratio of unemployment (number of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	31	30	10	78	92	46	39	43	23
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	259	258	168	6,501	5,350	8,990	1,298	1,089	1,133
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	356	134	-	13,535	16,337	-	2,187	2,240
3. Total jobs available during month.....	-	614	202	-	18,885	25,327	-	3,276	3,373
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	291	107	-	5,242	9,333	-	1,071	1,557
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	65	76	-	8,723	3,160	-	763	365
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	293	259	131	5,954	6,501	9,008	1,338	1,298	1,323
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	267	348	187	16,439	18,305	5,829	1,975	2,050	661
% female.....	53.2	52.9	28.3	15.5	15.8	24.7	16.8	16.0	32.1
% veterans.....	16.1	22.4	-	38.4	37.4	-	38.9	38.9	-
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	11.6	13.5	-	27.4	25.4	-	25.0	27.9	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	213	263	151	15,013	17,289	3,605	1,899	2,009	485
Claimants.....	162	202	-	8,479	10,282	-	951	1,177	-
% under 20 years.....	0.6	1.5	-	2.9	3.5	-	1.4	1.9	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	50.6	55.0	-	49.1	50.8	-	28.2	31.7	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	16.1	16.3	-	31.9	31.2	-	37.5	36.9	-
% over 60 ".....	32.7	27.2	-	16.1	14.5	-	32.9	29.5	-
Non-claimants.....	51	61	-	6,534	7,007	-	948	832	-
% under 20 years.....	25.5	59.0	-	11.2	13.5	-	24.1	29.7	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	62.7	32.8	-	63.2	61.1	-	50.4	42.5	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	11.8	4.9	-	20.8	20.3	-	19.0	19.0	-
% over 60 ".....	0.0	3.3	-	4.8	5.1	-	6.5	8.8	-
Applicants registered during month.....	-	332	209	-	13,836	18,648	-	1,830	2,462
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	680	396	-	32,141	24,477	-	3,880	3,123
% referred.....	-	43.7	26.5	-	26.0	55.8	-	29.7	60.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	278	267	85	14,381	16,439	9,598	1,811	1,975	1,222
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	9,000	8,900	8,100	184,000	179,300	210,300	46,100	45,700	53,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ".....	-	-	-	-	33.01	36.90	-	31.70	34.99
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	-	8,110	-	202,210	1,368,268	-	-	-200,241

Trail

Emphasis has been placed on the acute lack of such experienced tradesmen as carpenters, bricklayers, tinsmiths, and plumbers. The reconversion program in this area hinges on these labour requirements. The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company has increased its clearance orders but many men on arrival at Trail cannot pass the stiff medical requirements. Eighty per cent of all labour applicants are hired by this company. Tadanac highway, which joins the plant with the Trail-Nelson highway will be rebuilt, providing employment for many male workers if they are available. Virtually all able bodied men in Trail now are employed. The only noticeable surplus of male workers for whom there is no demand is that of ten metalworkers. In contrast, opportunities for women are rather scarce.

Vancouver

Loggers and sawmill workers are in heavy demand. Except for a call for miners and muckers in the Princeton area there has been little activity in this field because of labour disputes. A substantial demand for workers in fish canneries now exists because of both the withdrawal of students and stepped-up production. The seasonal increase in labour requirements for packing houses is reaching its peak. Now that the strike is over, iron and steel foundries are either taking back former help or engaging new workers. Construction is on the upward trend; out of town labour requirements are large, and the number of projects very high. Shipbuilding activity is held back by lack of steel supplies. This shortage is causing some firms to install a short period lay-off plan. The greatest surpluses of men are in the following categories: "white collar" workers, metalworkers, seamen, miscellaneous skilled and semi-skilled workers, and light factory labourers. The majority of unemployed women are clerical workers, and miscellaneous skilled and semiskilled workers.

Victoria

Demand for labour in agriculture, logging, and lumbering is quite light. There are some orders for skilled workers in lumbering and logging, but there is no opportunity for unskilled workers in these fields, with the exception of dairy workers. Shipbuilding activity is again on the upgrade, after having hit a critically low level of employment. Yarrows Limited has received a contract which will require at least 300 men; Victoria Machinery Depot has received a contract to overhaul a ship for the Canadian Pacific Railway but will not require many additional men. This work should keep the shipbuilding industry busy in the winter months. Building materials are increasingly non-obtainable; however, lack of skilled tradesmen was the main bottleneck to increased activity before the material supply situation became serious. Some of the numerous metalworkers, miscellaneous skilled and semiskilled workers now unemployed will probably be absorbed, due to stepped-up activity in shipbuilding. The usual surplus of light factory labourers exists. Several hundred construction vacancies and jobs for heavy labourers are going begging. There is a heavy surplus of "white collar" workers. Demand is high for service workers, but low for clerical workers.

PUBLICATIONS OF RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH, DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

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Advance Report on Labour Demand and Supply.
Canadian Labour Market.
Labour Demand and Supply.
Reinstatement in Civil Employment.
Special Placements of Handicapped Persons.
Statistics Pertaining to Ex-Service Personnel.
Weekly Labour Report from all National Employment Service Offices.

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Employment in Coal Mining.
Male Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants in the Construction Occupations in Selected Local Office Areas.
Summary Report on Placement Operations of National Employment Service Offices.
Summary Report on Ex-Service Personnel.
Report on Labour Organization in Canada.
Report on Wages and Hours of Labour in Canada.
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Collective Agreement Studies:
 No. 1:--Collective Agreements in the Pulp and Paper Industry in Canada.
 No. 2:--Union Status in Collective Agreements in the Iron and Steel Industry in Canada.
 No. 3:--Union Status in Collective Agreements in the Manufacture of Non-ferrous Metal Products, Non-metallic Mineral Products and Chemical Products, Canada.

Information regarding these publications may be obtained by writing Mrs. M.O. Balcom, Central Registry, Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour, Ottawa, Ontario.

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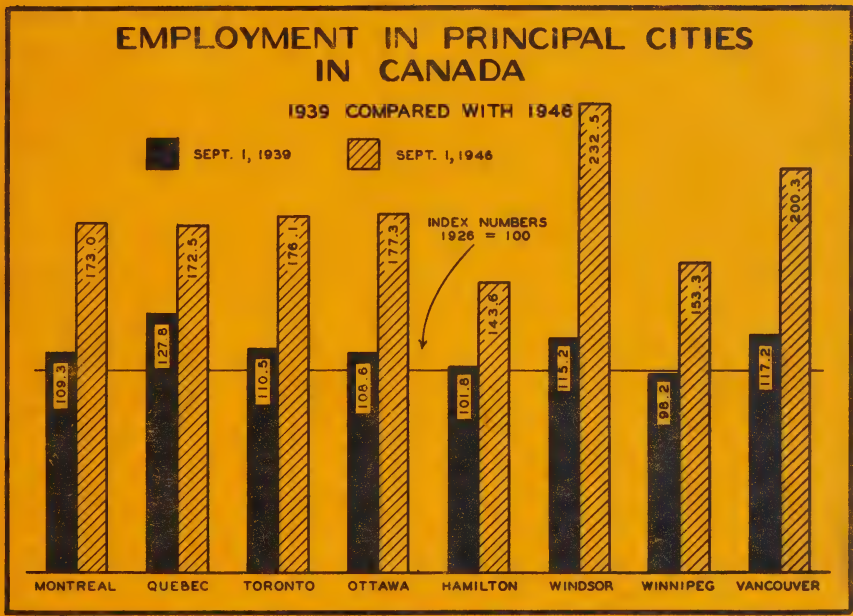
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CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

ECONOMICS FILE

Government
Publications

OCTOBER, 1946



RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH
DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

NOVEMBER 15, 1946

VOL. II NO 10



AS WE GO TO PRESS

Unplaced Applicants in Canada registered at National Employment Service offices totalled 141,000 at November 14, 1946. This marks an increase of 7,000 in the two weeks since October 31. During October, unplaced applicants fell 7,000, reflecting the uptrend of employment in manufacturing following the settlement of strategic strikes in the first weeks of October. The consequent reversal of that trend is mainly due to the normal seasonal slowdown. With major strikes out of the way, cyclical expansion in basic manufacturing industries and seasonal increases in logging employment should do much to counteract the seasonal downtrend in construction, food processing, the service industries, transportation and agriculture.

Unfilled Vacancies in Canada dropped 3,000 in the first two weeks of November to reach the 130,000 mark at November 14, 1946. This was a continuation of the drop of 5,000 registered during October, interrupting the sharp gain of 20,000 in September. Slackening of employment in the seasonal industries has occurred in the last six weeks. Removal of the material bottlenecks which stalled production in manufacturing industries before settlement of key labour disputes should boost job openings.

Unplaced Ex-Servicemen in Canada totalled 44,000 at October 31, against 45,000 at September 30. Jobless veterans out of work 15 days or more reached the lowest level since V-J day, numbering 27,000 at the end of October. This compares with 30,000 at September 30. Those unplaced 15 days or more constituted 62.0 per cent of all jobless veterans against 67.5 per cent at the end of the previous month. Unplaced veterans constituted 33 per cent of total unplaced applicants in Canada, a slight rise from the 32 per cent at September 30.

Discharges of Service Personnel in October of this year hit the post-V-J day low of 7,000, a 5,000 drop from the number during September. Total discharges from V-J day on reached 679,000 at October 31. November and December forecasts limit releases from the armed forces to 4,000 and 3,500 respectively.

A Classification of Canadian Labour Market Areas at October 31 places one area in the Acute unemployment category, corresponding to conditions in the "Mid-Thirties", and two other areas in the Serious unemployment group, comparable to 1939 labour market conditions. Maintaining the trend of the past five months, New Glasgow-Pictou remains in the Acute unemployment classification. The relative labour market status of Valleyfield, responding to the settlement of the strike of the textile workers which began on June 1, changed from Acute to Moderate, corresponding to employment conditions in 1941. Oshawa changed from the Serious to the Moderate unemployment category in the same period.

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PART I

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Section 1--DOMINANT FEATURES OF THE CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

Employment and the Post-war Pattern of Manufacturing Diversification

A new pattern of manufacturing diversification is emerging in Canada to-day as wartime plant development is modified to meet demand in the post-war market.

At the 1944 level of production, war manufacturing employed a force of some 700,000 workers. Of these, about 350,000 were employed in the mushroom growth of new plants for munitions, aircraft, shipbuilding, and ordnance; another 300,000 were engaged in plants with expanded and adapted facilities: largely railway shops, iron and steel product makers, automobile and part makers, and electrical apparatus makers. Most of the remainder were employed in the intensified production of steel, aluminum, chemicals, textiles, wood, and food products.

With the collapse of much of the mushroom growth war industry and the scaling down of intensified production, sectors of manufacturing and labour "depletion" have been created. On the other hand, where intensive production has been continued into the post-war period, and where successful conversion of expanded plant facilities to civilian production has been achieved, sectors of "reception" have been created, facilitated by the withdrawal of temporary wartime elements from the labour market.

The pattern of manufacturing, 1946 level, reveals that manufacturing as measured by employment, has expanded greatly over the 1939 level. It is proposed to examine such expansion to determine which elements are of comparatively permanent nature and which are likely to deplete rapidly once temporary pent-up demand has been satisfied.

This emergent pattern of manufacturing diversification and employment will be considered on an "area" level. With the analysis of each area, it is proposed to quote the July 1 figure of employment to indicate present activity in manufacturing industry. The October 1 figure of job applicants for all types of employment, not merely manufacturing, will be given as a general indicator of employment conditions.

The Maritimes, A Region of Severe Manufacturing Depletion

General—Although only about 37,000 were engaged in war manufacturing in the Maritime region, 1944 level, over half that number were in activity of mushroom growth, with 19,000 in shipbuilding and repair and 2,000 in aircraft manufacture. This growth was in relation to expanded steel and coal production in the Sydney and New Glasgow areas. Its collapse has been greatest in the Pictou and Amherst areas. In the port areas of Halifax and Saint John, activity has been better maintained.

Sydney and New Glasgow—Currently, employment in these areas has been only slightly reduced from the war peak. In the New Glasgow district it stands at 1,700 in steel (1939-1,400) and 1,400 in coal (1939-1,600); and in the Sydney district at 5,000 in steel (1939-3,400) and 11,900 in coal (1939-9,100).

Pictou and Amherst—Shipbuilding activity in the Pictou sector has all but disappeared, with an employment drop of some 2,500 to 500. In Amherst, employment in steel products, split between steel shapes and railway rolling stock, currently stands at 400, whereas in 1943 with aircraft production it was 2,500. No other significant manufacturing activity offers any diversification.

Applicants for the above four related areas: 7,300.

Halifax—Present employment in manufacturing, at 9,900 is about triple the 1939 level. Food products account for 1,800 and textiles a few more, but more than 5,500 (1939-300) are employed in shipbuilding, with most of the activity concentrated in repair work.

Applicants: 3,000.

Saint John—The Saint John area has greater diversification, since about two-thirds of the 1946 manufacturing force of 5,400 (1939-3,000) is employed in branches of food products, wood and paper products, textiles, and non-ferrous metal products. Employment in iron products is about 1,400 with slightly fewer than 900 in shipbuilding, a reduction of 1,500 from the 1943 level.

Applicants: 2,400.

Maritimes summary—Labour for war manufacturing was drawn from the 1939 regional surplus on the market, from casual and rural elements, and from the services and primary industry. With the return of veterans to the labour market (and enlistments from the region were heavy), the contraction of shipbuilding and aircraft, the cessation of wartime construction, and the scaling down of military installations, reception has been inadequate. The port cities have neither the size nor the diversification to receive any quantity of labour. Nor has expanded regional activity in construction, the services, trade, or primary industry been sufficient to absorb the surplus, and it does not appear that it will be able to do so on anything but a casual depressed basis, which was the pre-war condition.

Improved shipbuilding and repair facilities at Halifax and Saint John will probably be of limited long-term use in view of the general over-expansion of both Canadian and foreign shipbuilding plant. Both the coal and steel industries are operating on a considerably extended plane. Steel production, in part

dependent on the domestic Maritime market, in part on railway maintenance and equipment requirements, for various reasons does not occupy a strong competitive position in the Canadian market. Coal production, although in part servicing the Maritime domestic market and railway operating needs in the eastern division, relies for volume consumption on the Quebec market. Here, success depends upon meeting American competition.

It is evident that few new elements have been introduced to sustain activity or diversify manufacturing. Therefore, provided activity remains at a high level elsewhere in Canada, and that would seem to be the case, at least for a couple of years, the Maritimes may become a region of continuing depletion unless planned stimulants are undertaken.

Quebec, Large Sectors of Depletion with Limited Sectors of Manufacturing Reception

General—Although the number employed in war manufacturing in Quebec was just two-thirds of that in Ontario, the higher proportion of depletion has made the impact of adjustment more severe. This is particularly evident at the area level, since a large part of mushroom growth plant was located where re-employment opportunities were restricted. Movement out of areas of most severe depletion where re-employment opportunities were practically non-existent has, however, taken place. This trend can be seen in the first three areas below.

Chicoutimi-Arvida—Aluminum employment has dropped from 13,000 (1943) to about 4,300.

Applicants: 400.

Sorel—Shipbuilding employment has dropped from a 1943 level of 6,200 to 2,000. Ordnance dropped from 2,700 to 600. Foundry employment sustains 200 workers.

Applicants: 600.

Ste. Therese—Employment in munitions, 3,600 in 1943, has disappeared. Textiles sustain 350 and plywoods 400 workers.

Applicants: 160.

Quebec City—Depletion has been severe in this district but there remain substantial segments of both sustained and slightly expanded employment. General expansion by 1943 had more than tripled the 1939 employment figure to total 34,000. At present this has been reduced to 15,000, that is, about 5,000 above the 1939 level. Shipbuilding employment has dropped from a 1943 level of 10,500 to 2,300. Chemical employment dropped from 13,800 to 500. Leather products employment at present sustains 3,400, wood and paper products another 3,400 and textiles 1,600 workers.

Applicants: 7,900.

Three Rivers—Depletion has not been so severe here, since expansion was not extreme. The 1946 level of employment in manufacturing is 7,000, only 1,500 more than in 1939 and 1,200 less than 1943.

Iron products employment has dropped from 1,500 in 1943 to 800. (The contraction was mainly in ordnance. Present activity is largely in foundry work, and iron pipe making.)

Contraction took place in non-ferrous metals from 800 (1943) to 300. However, employment in textiles, mainly cotton goods, has expanded from a 1943 level of 1,900 to 2,500 in 1946 and in wood and paper products from 2,700 to 3,400.

Applicants: 3,100.

Shawinigan Falls—Expansion here more than doubled the 1939 labour force, reaching a figure of 6,700 in 1943. Current employment is at 4,600. The severe employment drop in non-ferrous metals is largely responsible for the total employment decline in manufacturing from 1943.

Chemicals (plastics, chemicals used in production of rubber, cellophane, etc.) expanded from 700 (1939) to 2,300 (1943), and is currently 2,200.

Non-ferrous metals (aluminum wire) expanded from 800 (1939) to 2,400 (1943), and has dropped to 700.

Pulp and paper at 800, and clay, glass and stone products (abrasives) at 250 are slightly expanded above 1939 level, while textiles (cotton goods) at 400 are contracted.

Applicants: 890.

Valleyfield—Employment here doubled under war stimulus, expansion taking place principally in the previously small element of chemicals, and moderately in textiles, the town's main industry. The expansion in textiles has been maintained, but that in chemicals has collapsed.

Textiles (cotton goods) increased from 2,700 (1939) to 3,200 (1943). Although the July figure of textile employment, 600, reflects the strike in the textile industry, present normal employment is somewhat higher than it was in 1939.

Chemicals expanded from 100 (1939) to 2,500 (1943), and has currently declined to 300.

Applicants: 790.

Sherbrooke—In this area, textile employment is complemented by a large segment of employment in iron products and small segments in food products and in miscellaneous types of manufacturing.

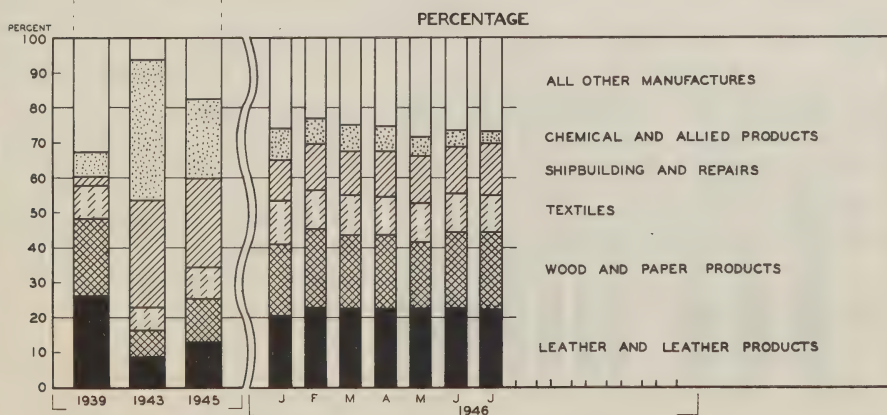
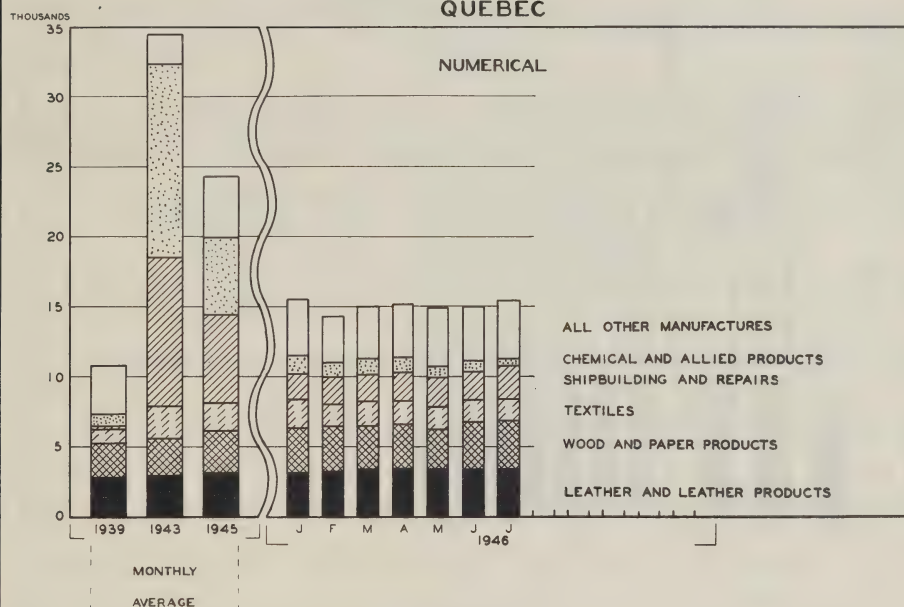
Textiles (largely hosiery and knitted goods) expanded from 2,300 (1939) to 4,500 (1943), and is currently 4,200.

Employment in iron products manufacturing, standing at 700 in 1939 and 2,100 in 1943, is currently 1,900.

Applicants: 260.

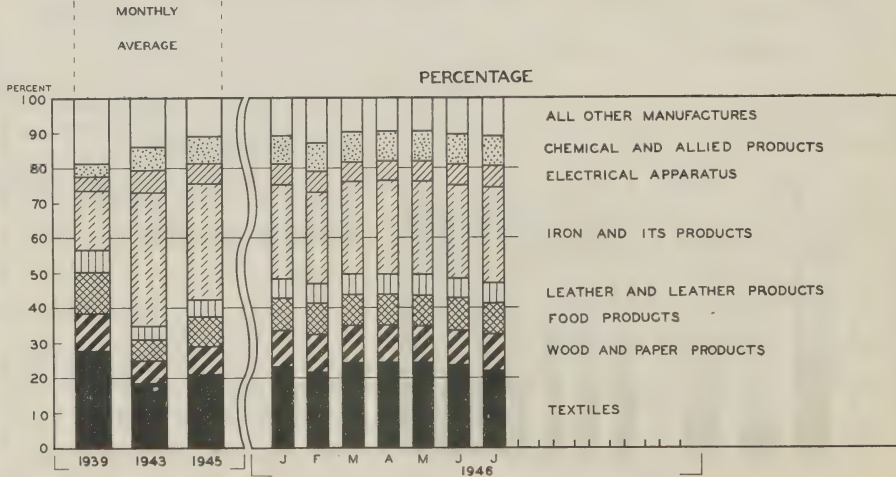
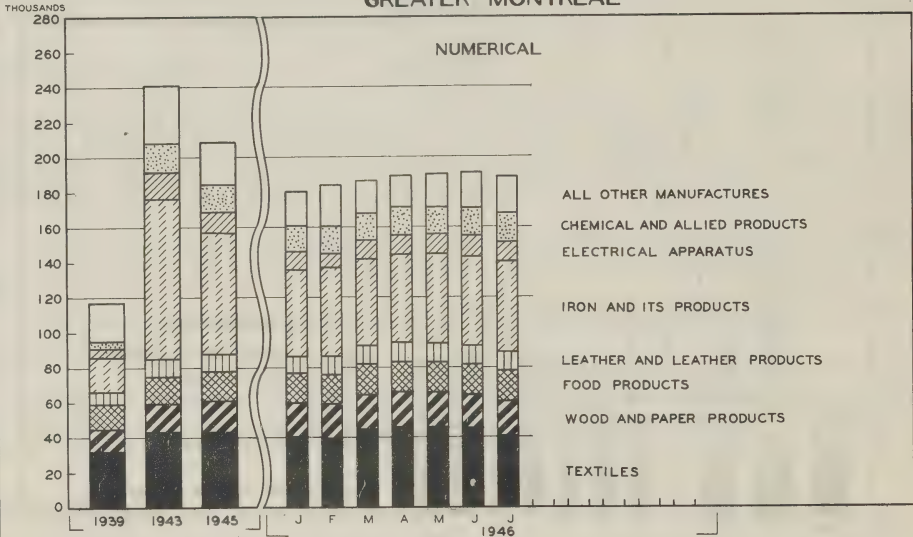
THE CHANGING PATTERN OF MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT (1939 - 1946)

QUEBEC



THE CHANGING PATTERN OF MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT (1939 - 1946)

GREATER MONTREAL



Hull--Employment has been maintained at its 1943 level of 5,000. Two-thirds of this employment is in wood and paper products. There are also segments in textiles and food products. A small iron segment has collapsed.

Wood and paper products, pulp and paper, expanding from 1,900 in 1939 to 2,500 in 1943, is currently 2,900.

Textiles about doubled to 900 in 1943, and has declined to a current 500.

Food products employment is 400.

Applicants: 1,090.

Montreal--In this, the only large diversified centre in Quebec, employment in manufactures rose from a 1939 level of 117,000 to a 1943 level of 241,000. By 1946, it had levelled off at 180,000, and has since been slowly rising.

Textiles expanded from 32,000 (1939) to 44,000 (1943). Employment has been maintained.

Iron products expanded from 20,000 in 1939 to 91,000 in 1943, and has since dropped to 52,000.

Electrical apparatus expanded from 4,700 to 15,000, and has since dropped to 12,000.

Chemical products expanded from 4,000 to 16,000, and has remained steady at 16,000.

Wood and paper products expanded from 13,000 to 16,000; and now is 19,000.

Food products expanded from 14,000 to 15,000 and now is 17,000.

Leather and leather products expanded from 7,000 to 10,000, and remains at 10,000.

Applicants: 12,400.

Quebec summary--The established manufactures of Quebec are largely textiles with their related products, and wood and paper products. These were comparatively unexpanded during the war. Consequently, with the collapse of the large segment of mushroom growth in shipbuilding, ordnance, non-ferrous metals, chemicals, etc., job seekers found but limited opportunities of employment in manufactures except in the Montreal area. Accordingly, labour is seeking employment in three fields:

- 1) The receptive diversified manufacturing labour market in Montreal.
- 2) Primary industries, trades and services.
- 3) The rural and casual market.

That extensive job opportunities have been found in these outlets is indicated by the relatively low number of job seekers in areas where severe depletion has taken place.

Complexity of development in Quebec makes it desirable to deal separately with Montreal. As to manufacturing activity elsewhere, activity is evident generally centred in textiles and in wood and paper products.

Current shipbuilding would seem to be on as tenuous a basis as in the Maritimes, although more dependent upon new building for export on an export credit basis. Textile activity in Sherbrooke, expanded by 2,000, would seem to be solidly based on knitted goods and hosiery. The activity in chemicals at Shawinigan, where expansion is over 1,000, would seem to be as solidly founded since production is largely in plastics, cellophane, and chemicals for rubber production.

The expansion of wood and paper products, up 1,000 in Hull, is largely due to increased output of newsprint, attributable to a fuller use of facilities. Plywood production at Ste. Therese introduces a permanent change. There now are 400 employed.

Apart from the increase in textile employment noted above, the Sherbrooke area has had a ~~sizeable~~ expansion in the iron products group, accounted for in large part by manufacture of steam drills and in smaller part by transportation heaters. Maintained expansion seems probable.

Turning to Montreal, we find that significant pattern changes have taken place in iron and steel products, chemicals, electrical apparatus, wood and paper products, and textiles. In iron and steel products, up 30,000, activity is divided between rolling stock, aircraft, and shipbuilding, on the one hand, and general iron and steel products, particularly machinery and sheet metal products. In the first group, rolling stock is double the 1939 level with a considerable proportion of production for export; aircraft, split between new construction and conversion, is four times the 1939 level; shipbuilding, split between new construction and repair, is ten times the 1939 level. Expanded activity in aircraft, shipbuilding, and rolling stock might be expected to continue for one or two years, but after initial activity to decline severely. In the miscellaneous iron and steel products group, overall expansion is about double and would seem to be too high to be maintained beyond the period of extreme demand.

In chemicals, a large segment in fertilizer for export would seem liable to depletion. On the other hand, electrical apparatus, with emphasis on radio and communications equipment, is perhaps capable of holding its expansion with widening demand in this field.

Textiles expansion at 12,000, although spread among various textile types is heavily weighted by the garment trade. Expansion will certainly be maintained for the present. Expansion at 6,000 in wood and paper products is diversified within the group, but has been largest in printing and publishing and in miscellaneous wood products for industry and packing. More moderate expansion has taken place in furniture and manufactured paper products. This expansion would seem to be soundly established in the tremendously increased use for wood and paper products.

The remaining regions, Ontario, the Prairies, and British Columbia, will be treated in a subsequent issue.

Section 2:—LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

Current Manpower Picture

Employment conditions at the end of October were mainly the result of two developments - the settlement of labour disputes, and the slackening of activity in seasonal industries. The present optimistic outlook of industry is due mainly to the termination of most of the major strikes in the first weeks of October. Of the 26,000 workers involved in disputes at the beginning of the month, all except about 700 have returned to work. Output in the vital steel, electrical apparatus, automobile, rubber, chemical, and brass industries is forging ahead and will soon stimulate general production increases. An extensive flow of goods will close the general demand-supply gap and relieve inflationary pressure. The heavy consumer demand for all types of goods will probably maintain manufacturing employment in the next few months, thus offsetting its normal seasonal decline.

One year ago the outlook was very different. War industries were closing down with the end of the war, creating widespread unemployment, while the demobilization of servicemen was just getting underway. Since that time the economy has completed most of the physical reconversion necessary for peacetime production, absorbing thousands of war workers and more than 600,000 ex-servicemen. Unemployment now is less than 3 per cent of the labour force. In the industrial regions of Quebec and Ontario, employment conditions show a marked improvement over October 1945. The trend of activity in the seasonally affected Prairie and Pacific regions shows a steady recovery from the post-war low in the spring of 1946 to a level slightly above that of October, 1945. The Maritime region has not yet regained its position of one year ago.

Industrial Employment

Upward swing in employment at September 1—Industrial employment in the nine leading industries showed an upward movement at the beginning of September despite the continuance of major strikes. At September 1, 1946, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported a total of 1,870,576 persons employed in firms with 15 or more workers, representing an increase of 27,508 or 1.5 per cent over August 1. This gain was greater than the average pre-war seasonal increase as based on the years 1931 to 1940. The average seasonal movement of employment in the war years from August to September was negligible. Based on the 1926 average as 100, the index of employment at September 1 was 174.0, as compared with 171.5 at August 1, 1946. This represents an increase of 45 per cent over the 1939 level.

Employment advances highest in British Columbia--Industrial employment in all regions showed general improvement during the month ended on September 1. British Columbia again recorded the largest advance with 3.1 per cent, followed by Quebec with 2.3 per cent. An increase of 1.8 per cent was recorded in the Maritimes while Ontario and the Prairies registered smaller gains of 0.7 per cent each.

Rise in manufacturing employment--A combined working force of 982,364 persons was reported in manufacturing at the beginning of September as compared with 966,261 at August 1. This increase of 15,026 or 1.6 per cent was slightly more than the average seasonal variation that occurred at that time during the years 1928 to 1939. The average seasonal movement from 1940 to 1945 was even less. As strikes were still restricting operations in the durable goods industries, the rise was largely centered in the non-durable sector.

Employment upswing in non-manufacturing industries--Included in the non-manufacturing industries which recorded employment expansion at September 1, were logging, communications, construction, transportation and trade. On the other hand, the service and mining industries reported a downward trend.

British Columbia metal strike hits mining--Partly as a result of the strike among metal miners in British Columbia, mining employment declined by .5 per cent during August. This drop, although contra-seasonal in relation to the average seasonal indices for the years 1928 to 1941, corresponds very closely to the average seasonal decline at the same time for the period 1942 to 1945. A gain of .4 per cent occurred in the coal mining sector.

Communications continue to improve--Further improvement was noted in communications employment at September 1, with an increase of 1.2 per cent over the preceding month. Heightened activity in the telephone division was the main contributing factor to this rise which was slightly more than the average pre-war seasonal increase.

Heightened activity in construction--The construction industry reported a slightly heightened activity over August of 2.7 per cent. This gain was less than the average pre-war seasonal increase due to the continued lack of building material, nails, pipe and cement.

Service industry tapers off--As the tourist season drew to a close employment in the service industries declined by .3 per cent. In comparison with the average pre-war seasonal variation for the same period, this represents a contra-seasonal decline. The decline was due to a reduction in the staffs of hotels and restaurants at summer resorts and of laundries and dry cleaning plants.

Employment gains reported in logging--In comparison with the normal pre-war seasonal variation, logging employment showed a contra-seasonal gain of 1.9 per cent at the beginning of September. This reflects the fact that as a result of serious shortages of lumber and pulp and paper there will be a greater demand for woodworkers in the coming season.

A bulletin issued by the Information Division of the Department of Labour stated that:

"Throughout Canada today the demand for woodworkers far exceeds the supply, and this situation will likely hold for several months for the plans of forest operators indicate that they hope, this coming winter, to increase their output by 15 per cent over last year, with a corresponding increase in their demands for labour.

Three large new sawmills are expected to go into production this year in the Lakehead Area of Ontario at Red Rock, Marathon and Espanola. The fourth is being developed at Terrace, Ontario.

It is expected that Canada's total production of lumber this year will be around five billion board feet. It is estimated that pulpwood production will be approximately 11 million cords."

Industry analysis on basis of purpose classification—A grouping of manufacturing employment on the basis of a purpose classification permits some functional analysis.

From the beginning of this year to September 1, employment in the manufacturing industries as a whole rose 4.0 per cent. The major part of this expansion occurred in the consumer non-durable goods sector. Still seriously affected by labour disputes were the producer goods industries, particularly by the strike in the primary steel industry. (See Table I at end of section).

Notable expansion in consumer non-durables—In this sector, employment has risen by 9.2 per cent from January 1 to September 1; 3.5 per cent of this gain was registered during August. Gains in all divisions were reported, the largest expansions occurring in food, clothing and beverages. On the basis of the period 1942 to 1945 the expansion in food was seasonal in character while based on experience of the years 1931 to 1937 the gain in beverages was contra-seasonal.

At the same time, the level of employment in the industries ancillary to consumer non-durables rose by 3.9 per cent. Largely responsible for this rise were employment increases in the industries primary to food, clothing, finished textiles and printing and publishing. In comparison with the seasonal indices based on 1930 to 1939, in the case of clothing, and on 1929 to 1945 with reference to printing and publishing, the gains were both contra-seasonal.

An increase of 5.6 per cent has occurred in the consumer durable finished goods industries since the beginning of the year. This group has been hindered by industrial tie-ups in the key industries.

Producer goods industries back to January level—At September 1, employment in the producer goods industries was at practically the same level as that recorded at the beginning of the year. It should be noted that the highest level of employment in this sector occurred in May. Declines in the following industries were attributable to strikes: machinery building, integrated steel, chemicals and chemical products, construction materials and shipbuilding. The greatest expansion occurred in sawmills and agricultural producers' goods, although a seasonal decline took place in the latter during August. Slight contra-seasonal increases were also recorded in non-ferrous metal and petroleum products.

Unemployment

Unplaced applicants continue to decline—The number of unplaced applicants totalled 134,000 at October 31, as compared with 142,000 at the beginning of the month, a decrease of 8,000 in comparison with a decline of 3,000 the previous month. Any rapid rate of decline was still being hindered by the lasting effects of industrial tie-ups even though terminated.

Decline in unplaced applicants focused on males—As labour demands are still largely for men, the drop in unplaced applicants was concentrated amongst male workers. Male unplaced applicants at October 31 totalled 102,000 as compared with 111,000 at October 3. During September there was a drop of 3,000. In comparison with a total of 31,000 at October 3, female unplaced applicants rose to 32,000 at October 31.

The proportion of unREFERRED applicants (workers registered as unplaced applicants who have not yet been referred to jobs) to all unplaced applicants rose to 92.5 in October, one point over the preceding month and a decline of 4.5 points since the end of March when the ratio was at its 1946 peak.

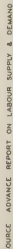
Highest unemployment still in Maritimes and Pacific—As related to the non-agricultural labour force, the regional burden of unemployment remained heaviest in the Maritimes and Pacific regions. In the other three regions, Quebec, Ontario and the Prairies, the unemployment load is relatively light. It should be noted that the incidence of unemployment is based upon the non-agricultural rather than on the total labour force, since unplaced applicants are largely concentrated in urban areas. Current ratios are based upon the D.B.S. Labour Force Survey of August 31, 1946. (Refer to Table II at end of section).

Difficulty in matching jobs with applicants—At the end of October, the largest number of unfilled vacancies were for skilled and semi-skilled male workers. However, unplaced applicants were concentrated largely in the unskilled group.

Openings for female workers in the professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service occupations were fewer than the number of applicants. In the same groups male applicants also exceed the number of vacancies. (See Table III at end of section).

Fewer vacancies reported during October—Reporting of unfilled vacancies slackened during October as compared with the previous month. Approximately 133,000 vacancies were reported at October 31, 9,000 fewer than at the beginning of the month. The decrease, which reflects a slackening of normal seasonal activity, was centered in the female labour field where a decline of 5,000 occurred. Employment opportunities were still being affected by strikes. Labour demand for males rose in the pulpwood logging industry in the Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario and the Prairies, in gold mining in Quebec, Ontario and the Prairies, and in building and structural construction in the Maritimes. Few vacancies were reported in the manufacturing industries.

EMPLOYMENT EFFECTS OF RECONVERSION,



Live claims continue to decline—The number of live claims in the unemployment register as at the last working day of September totalled 57,682 (41,022 males and 16,660 females). This represents a decrease from the number at the end of August when the total was 61,822 (44,224 males and 17,598 females). The monthly decrease in the number of active claimants is due mainly to seasonal increases in employment.

There were 5,604 claims disallowed during September, as compared with 6,995 in August. Claims disallowed because of loss of work due to labour disputes declined from 755 to 353; 2,163 were due to insufficient contributions and 2,034 were for voluntarily leaving work without just cause, both representing declines from the previous month.

More benefit payments terminated—During August, 1946, the payment of unemployment insurance benefits was terminated for 40,127 workers in contrast with 36,746 terminations in July and 45,963 in June. Again re-employment was the major cause of termination with 14,182 or 35 per cent of the workers concerned finding new jobs. During July 16,409 or 45 per cent of the workers were reported as re-employed and in June the total was 25,872 or 56 per cent.

Exhausted benefit rights decline—The number of persons who exhausted their benefit rights during August was 4,688 - a decline of 1,656 from the preceding month. Of all terminations, this represents 12 per cent while in July it was 17 per cent and in June 13 per cent. Of those whose benefit rights were exhausted, 1,261 or 27 per cent were over 60 years of age in comparison with 25 per cent in July and 22 per cent in June. At the same time, persons between the ages of 20 and 30 accounted for 25 per cent. On an occupational basis, 25 per cent of those exhausting benefit rights were labourers and 31 per cent were manufacturing and mechanical workers.

Payrolls and Weekly Earnings

Slight increase in payrolls and weekly earnings—Following the upward trend indicated at August 1, the aggregate payroll index based on June 1, 1941, as 100, rose from 143.4 to 145.9 at September 1. At the same time, an increase of 1.6 points was recorded in the employment index on the same base. The rises are attributable to employment gains in the construction and logging industries where the demand is for highly paid workers.

Accordingly, a slight increase was recorded in per capita weekly earnings which rose from \$32.72 to \$32.82 at September 1. This brought weekly earnings to a level higher than either that of September 1, 1944, of \$31.72 or of September 1, 1945, of \$32.11.

Hourly Earnings

From August 1 to September 1, an increase in average hourly earnings from 70.0 to 70.6 occurred. This rise was centered in the pulp and paper, lumber, non-ferrous metal, aircraft, shipbuilding, bread and bakery, animal products, foundry and machine shop, and tobacco goods industries. Offsetting the increase were decreases in rates of pay in the rubber and automobile industries.

Hours Worked

Average weekly hours in manufacturing declined from 43.0 at August 1, to 42.7 at September 1. Labour disputes were still restricting operations as many firms were forced to work on a part-time basis due to material shortages.

Strikes and Lock-Outs

Strike wave recedes—Industrial unrest continued throughout September although less time was lost due to strike idleness than in the previous month. However, the level was high as compared with the same period last year.

Preliminary figures show a total of 33 strikes in progress during September, 10 fewer than in August, and a time loss of 657,601 man-working days with 33,030 workers involved. In August, there were 43 strikes in existence, 42,407 workers involved and a time loss of 867,252 days. At the same time last year there were 17 strikes involving 19,819 workers, with a time loss of 184,556 days.

At the end of September, some major strikes remained unsettled, namely those amongst rubber workers, motor vehicle workers, electrical apparatus workers, steel workers, textile workers and chemical workers. A number of minor strikes commencing during the month were terminated within a few days.

Major strikes settled during October—During the month of October all the major strikes were terminated. The steel strike which was settled on October 5, had a deciding influence on the settlement of the other disputes.

Strikes settled during the month were as follows:

- | | | |
|-----------|---|----------------|
| Oct. 2 - | Plastics Workers, Duplate of Canada Ltd.,
Oshawa (on strike since August 20). | 315 workers |
| Oct. 5 - | Steel workers, Hamilton, Sault Ste. Marie,
and Sydney (on strike since July 14). | 14,000 workers |
| | - Frost Steel and Wire Company, Hamilton,
(went on strike August 24). | 235 workers |
| Oct. 12 - | Brunner, Mond, Canada Ltd., Amherstburg,
(chemical workers on strike since July 12). | 440 workers |
| Oct. 14 - | Canadian Industries Limited, Windsor Works,
(went on strike June 27). | 530 workers |
| Oct. 15 - | Electro Metallurgical Company of Canada,
Welland (went on strike July 8). | 1,280 workers |
| Oct. 17 - | Ohrysler Corporation of Canada, Windsor
and Chatham, (went on strike June 18). | 3,440 workers |
| Oct. 17 - | Dominion Rubber Tire Plant, Kitchener
(commenced June 24) | 1,200 workers |
| Oct. 17 - | Anaconda American Brass, New Toronto,
(went on strike May 18). | 1,000 workers |

Oct. 19 - Copper miners, British Columbia, 1,000 workers
(went on strike July 3).

Oct. 21 - Rubber factory workers, Toronto, New 10,146 workers
Toronto, Bowmanville and Kitchener
(commenced June 24) (included was the
Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., B.F. Good-
rich Rubber Co., the Dominion Rubber Co.
and Gutta Percha and Rubber Co.).

Oct. 24 - Electrical apparatus workers of Canadian 4,375 workers
Westinghouse Co., Ltd. (commenced July 5).

Oct. 30 - Electrical Workers of Amalgamated Electric 700 workers
Co. at Toronto, (commenced July 8).

The settlement of Canada's major strikes, however, will not mean an immediate return to normal production in industry even though three steel companies reported that the steel output was nearly at its pre-strike peak one month after the dispute ended.

According to an industrial activity survey conducted by the Canadian Bank of Commerce, general industry now is operating at about 20 per cent below rated capacity.

Industrial Production

The index of industrial production declined to 172.5 in September compared with 175.5 in August and 223.9 a year ago. Little change is likely to occur during the next month except in the non-metallic groups as the replenishing of inventories will be a gradual process.

The decline still reflects material shortages and the seasonal slowdown. However, the British Columbia logging and lumber industry reported a pick-up in lumber production during September with favourable future prospects. Production of roofing materials was also up in September.

Fewer automobiles were produced in September than in the preceding month but there was an increase over September last year. There were 11,543 units produced in September compared with 12,293 the preceding month and 8,484 in the same month of 1945. At the same time, slight advances were recorded in the production of domestic washing machines and electric refrigerators. The output of newsprint was 330,063 tons compared with the all-time high of 370,676 tons in August.

The coal situation has been distinctly eased by higher domestic output as well as higher current imports. However, the trend of mineral production as a whole showed a downward swing.

Canada's merchandise export trade declined in September, from \$242,685,000 the previous month to \$169,779,000. The decrease was due, in the main, to contractions in the agricultural group - chiefly in wheat - and the iron and steel products groups - mainly in automobiles and automobile parts. Movement abroad of wood, wood products and paper continued to be heavy in September.

The decline in the output of cheese and butter in September was greater than normal for the season. At the same time, the meat packing industry was less active.

Cost-of-Living Index

The cost-of-living index advanced from 125.5 on September 3 to 126.8 on October 1, 1946. Increases in consumer milk prices accounted for the major part of the October advance. Further increases were recorded in the prices of food with the exception of vegetables; in rentals, fuel and light, clothing and home furnishings.

Table I—Employment Trends by Major Industrial Group

(Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S.)

Industry	Jan. 1, 1946	Sept. 1 1946	Change	
			No.	%
Consumer Non-Durable Finished Goods Industries.....	283,125	309,251	26,126	9.2
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Non-Durables	141,160	146,541	5,381	3.8
Consumer Durable Finished Goods Industries	117,228	123,746	6,518	5.6
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Durables	1,328	1,179	-149	-11.2
Producer Goods Industries	376,978	376,995	17	.005
Total Manufacturing	920,819	957,712	36,893	4.0

Table II—Unplaced Applicants as a Percentage of Non-Agricultural
Labour Force by Region

(Source: Labour Force Survey, D.B.S., Labour Demand and Supply, Research
and Statistics Branch)

Region	November 17, 1945			February 23, 1946			October 31, 1946		
	Non-Agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Non-Agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Non-Agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%
Maritimes..	303,000	12,000	4.0	310,000	22,000	7.1	346,000	19,000	5.5
Quebec.....	1,072,000	60,000	5.6	1,011,000	85,000	8.4	1,073,000	33,000	3.1
Ontario.....	1,300,000	54,000	4.2	1,282,000	80,000	6.2	1,356,000	43,000	3.2
Prairies...	462,000	24,000	5.2	488,000	40,000	8.2	516,000	21,000	4.1
Pacific....	322,000	19,000	5.9	344,000	33,000	9.6	367,000	18,000	4.9
Canada.....	3,459,000	169,000	4.9	3,435,000	260,000	7.6	3,658,000	134,000	3.7

Table III—Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants by Occupation
as at October 24, 1946

(Source: Revised Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch)

Occupational Group	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Canada.....	96,895	41,633	138,528	104,030	31,999	136,029
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service	7,326	17,682	25,008	24,973	21,186	46,159
Skilled and Semi-skilled.....	62,666	9,129	71,795	34,184	5,226	39,410
Unskilled (a).....	26,903	14,822	41,725	44,873	5,587	50,460

(a) Includes farm hands and fishermen.

Table IV—Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note: All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Features	Sept. 1939	Sept. 1940	Sept. 1941	Sept. 1942	Sept. 1943	Sept. 1944	Sept. 1945	Aug. 1946	Sept. 1946
Employment (a) -									
Index (Av. 1926 = 100)...	119.3	130.7	160.7	176.6	183.2	182.6	170.8	171.5	174.0
(June 1, 1941 = 100)	-	-	106.3	116.8	121.2	121.0	113.2	113.7	115.3
Number (thousands).....	1,284	1,403	1,725	1,896	1,967	1,960	1,834	1,839	1,868
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	423	431
Unemployment (b) -									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	59.2	96.3	160.3	144.8
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	31.4	71.2	125.9	113.9
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	27.8	25.1	34.4	30.9
Live Claims -									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	5.4	28.8	68.5	61.8
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	3.9	17.6	48.8	44.2
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	1.5	11.2	19.7	17.6
Earnings (a) -									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941=100)	-	-	109.4	134.2	147.3	148.5	140.6	143.4	145.9
Per Capita weekly earnings	-	-	26.13	29.31	31.30	31.72	32.11	32.72	32.82
Cost of living (c) -									
(Av. 1935 - 39 = 100)....	100.8	106.4	114.7	117.4	119.4	118.8	119.9	125.6	125.5
Man-hours and hourly									
earnings (a) -									
Average hours per week...	-	-	-	-	-	-	44.1	43.0	42.7
Average hourly earnings..	-	-	-	-	-	-	69.2	70.0	70.6
Strikes and lockouts (b).-									
Number.....	17	15	29	43	38	9	17	43	33
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	8.2	3.1	10.8	13.4	10.3	1.0	19.8	42.4	33.0
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	17.5	6.5	82.5	37.8	37.6	0.8	184.6	867.3	657.6
Industrial Production (d) -									
(Av. 1935 - 39 = 100)....	109.7	143.4	196.9	235.1	280.9	260.4	223.9	175.5	172.5

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

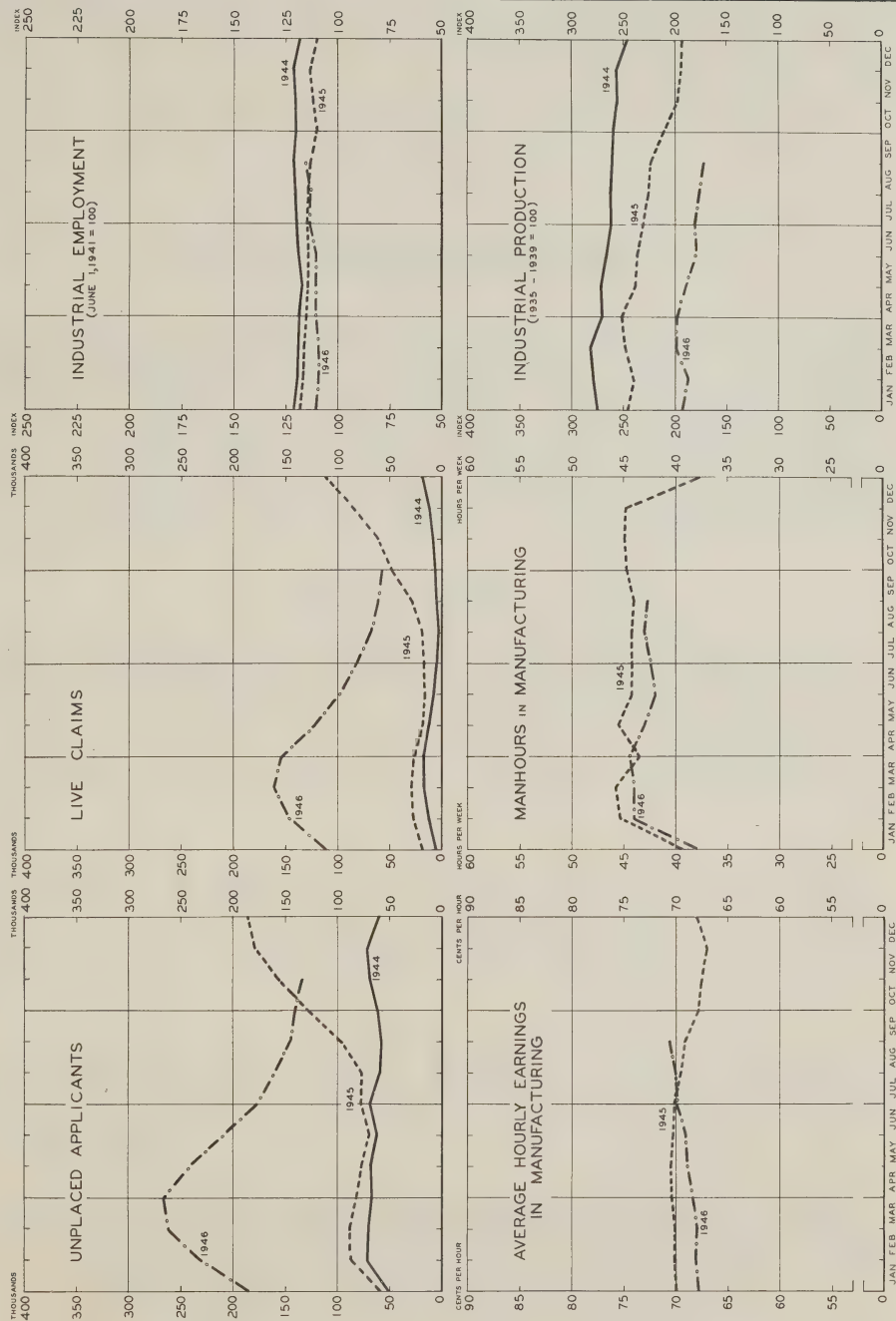
(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

SELECTED LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

1944 — 1945 — 1946



Section 3:—THE CANADIAN LABOUR FORCE

Fourth labour force survey—The main findings of the fourth labour force survey of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics are shown in Table 1, referring to the survey week August 25 - 31, with comparable figures for the first survey, November 11 - 17, 1945. These surveys provide quarterly breakdowns of the civilian non-institutional population of Canada, 14 years of age and over, by labour market status. Based on a sampling technique, this cross-section survey involved interviews with some 25,000 households across the country. The estimates and classifications are based on activities of those interviewed during the specific survey week.

Summary Highlights

Dischargees swell civilian population—The civilian non-institutional population climbed 74,000 over the June 1 estimate, to reach the 8,792,000 mark at August 31. This represents a rise of 462,000 over November 17 of last year. Some 65,000 veterans flowed into the labour market between the third and fourth survey dates, accounting for the major part of the rise. Demobilization is by now nearly complete, consequently, by the time of the next survey, growth of the civilian population should be for the most part free of direct demobilization influences.

Labour force hits new peak—The civilian labour force uptrend continued, reaching 4,977,000 at August. This marks an increase of 149,000 over June 1, and 439,000 over November 17, 1945. The gain may be traced chiefly to the influx of students and teachers seeking temporary summer employment, and the return of ex-service personnel to civilian life. The non-working population dropped 75,000 from June 1.

Labour market responds to seasonal upswing—Total employment rose seasonally to hit the 4,860,000 mark at August 31, an increase of 158,000 over June 1, and 494,000 over the November 17, 1945 estimate. Unemployment fell 9,000 from June 1, totalling 117,000 at August 31. This represents a drop of 55,000 from the first survey estimate.

Agricultural employment up 43,000 from June 1—Agricultural employment registered an increase of 43,000 over June 1, to reach the 1,317,000 mark at August 31. The most substantial gain took place in the paid worker category. The upswing reflects increased harvest activity.

Table I—Estimated Civilian Non-Institutional Manpower
(Thousands of Persons, 14 Years of Age and Over)

(Source: D.B.S. Labour Force Survey)

Population Class	November 11 - 17, 1945			August 25 - 31, 1946		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Total civilian non-institutional manpower	4,033	4,297	8,330	4,432	4,360	8,792
A. Labour Force.....						
1. Employed.....	3,388	1,150	4,538	3,843	1,124	4,977
(1) Agricultural.....	3,249	1,117	4,366	3,747	1,150	4,860
Operators.....	889	167	1,056	1,101	216	1,317
Paid Workers.....	595	16	611	692	12	706
Unpaid Workers.....	107	(b)	116	164	24	188
(2) Non-agricultural.....	187	142	329	245	178	423
Paid Workers.....	2,360	950	3,310	2,646	897	3,543
By private employer.....	1,988	854	2,842	2,225	816	3,041
By Government (federal, provincial, municipal)....	1,766	730	2,496	1,952	705	2,657
Employers.....	222	124	346	273	111	384
Own Account Workers.....	119	10	129	141	(b)	150
Unpaid Workers.....	237	52	289	263	44	307
2. Unemployed.....	16	34	50	17	28	45
B. Not in Labour Force.....	136	31	167	96	21	117
1. Permanently unable or too old to work.....	645	3,147	3,792	589	3,226	3,815
2. Keeping house.....	141	114	255	165	128	293
3. Going to school.....	14	2,618	2,632	(b)	2,752	2,753
4. Retired or voluntarily idle.....	292	283	575	30	11	41
5. Other.....	177	122	299	378	327	705
	21	10	31	15	(b)	23

(b) Fewer than 10,000.

ESTIMATED CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE

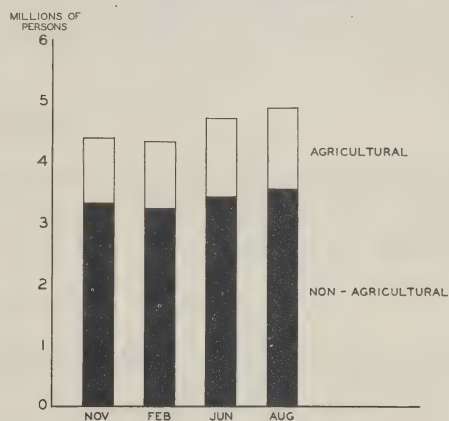
(14 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER)

FOR NOVEMBER 17, 1945, FEBRUARY 23, 1946, JUNE 1, 1946 AND AUGUST 31, 1946.

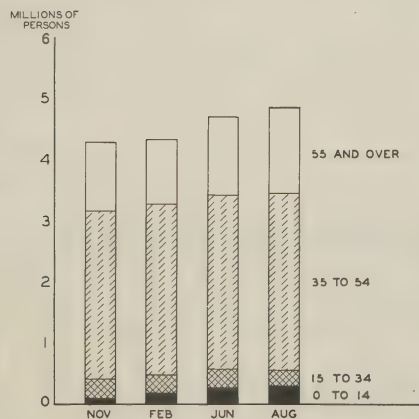
TOTAL LABOUR FORCE



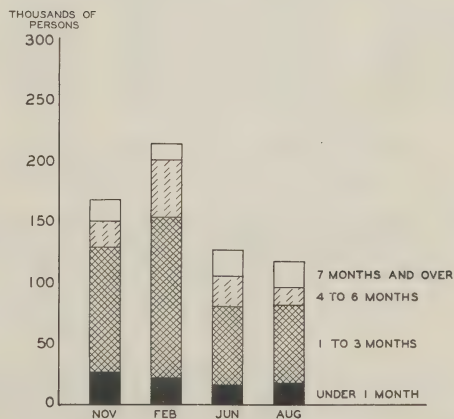
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



HOURS WORKED PER WEEK



DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT



Non-agricultural employment climbs 115,000—Employment in non-agricultural industries totalled 3,543,000 at the fourth survey date. All classes in this group showed a gain over the June figure, with the largest increase among paid workers for private employers. The August 31 estimate marks a rise of 233,000 over November 17 of last year.

Employment

Employed persons, for the purpose of these surveys, consist of those who worked one hour or more in the survey week for pay or profit or who did unpaid work which contributed to the running of a farm or business operated by a relative, as well as those who had jobs but did not work at them during the survey week because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labour disputes or temporary lay-offs of less than 30 days duration. Female family workers on farms are counted as employed if they worked over 20 hours on the farm, as distinct from the home.

Regional Employment

Ontario shows sharpest employment rise—By region, an overall employment gain took place between June 1 and August 31. The increase ranged from 9,000 in the Maritime provinces to the sharp jump of 55,000 in Ontario. Women made up 24 per cent of the increase in Ontario, against 44 per cent in the Maritimes.

Table II—Regional Distribution of Employment

(Thousands of Persons, 14 Years of Age and Over)

Region	June 1, 1946		August 31, 1946	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Maritimes	414	8.8	423	8.7
Quebec	1,289	27.4	1,330	27.3
Ontario	1,618	34.4	1,673	34.4
Prairies	1,007	21.4	1,041	21.4
British Columbia	374	8.0	393	8.2
Total	4,702	100.0	4,860	100.0

Employment boost is chiefly for males—Maintaining a trend consistent with past months, male employment in Canada showed a faster climb than that for women. Of the rise from the June date to the end of August, 78 per cent was for men. In contrast to an increase of 34,000 for single women, employed married women fell 2,000 below the June estimate.

Manufacturing employment down 27,000 from June—The uptrend in manufacturing was interrupted as employment dipped 27,000 between the third and fourth survey dates, against rises in all other industries except mining, which dropped about 1,000, in the same period. The tightened material supply situation, a strike aftermath, temporarily cut into employment expansion in manufacturing industries. A second major bottleneck was the scarcity of skilled workmen. Stabilization of labour relations with the settlement of the basic steel strike and other strikes in brass, automobile, rubber, non-ferrous metals and electrical apparatus industries should bring a reversal of this downward trend, as manufacturing is stepped-up to meet substantial pent-up demand.

Table III—Industrial Distribution of Employment

(Thousands of Persons, 14 Years of Age and Over)

Industry	June 1, 1946			August 31, 1946		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Agriculture	1,074	200	1,274	1,101	216	1,317
Forestry, fishing and trapping	69	(b)	70	95	(b)	97
Mining (a)	67	(b)	68	65	(b)	67
Manufacturing (c)	1,011	245	1,256	981	248	1,229
Construction	236	(b)	241	262	(b)	267
Transportation and Communication	298	38	336	312	42	354
Trade, Finance and Insurance	441	244	685	475	252	727
Service	428	344	772	456	346	802
Total	3,624	1,078	4,702	3,747	1,113	4,860

(a) Includes milling, quarrying, oil wells.

(b) Fewer than 10,000.

(c) Includes production and supply of electricity, gas and water.

The number of women employed in manufacturing rose 3,000 against the 30,000 drop for men.

The 30,000 employment gain in the service industries reflects the heightened tourist trade activity during the summer months.

Material bottlenecks curb construction boom—Construction employment registered an increase of 26,000 in the three month period as the seasonal up-swing of activity got underway during the summer. The tight material supply situation blocked an even more spectacular rise in employment in this industry. The construction industry employed 5.4 per cent of all employed workers in Canada at August 31, substantially unchanged from the 5.2 per cent in June.

Hours Worked Per Week

The number of persons employed in agriculture working over 55 hours per week rose 53,000 over the June estimate. A decrease occurred in the number working zero hours, 1 - 14, and 15 - 24 hours per week. Approximately 70 per cent of agricultural employment is in the group working 55 hours and over per week, against 14 per cent for non-agricultural industries at August 31. In industries other than agriculture, 76 per cent of the employed are in the group working from 35 - 54 hours per week.

Table IV--Percentage Distribution of Employed Persons
By Hours Worked Per Week

Number of Hours	Agriculture		Non-Agriculture	
	June 1	Aug. 31	June 1	Aug. 31
0 (1) .....	.8	.7	3.2	5.5
1 - 14	7.8	5.2	1.7	.9
15 - 24	5.1	4.4	2.6	2.2
25 - 34	2.9	3.2	3.6	1.8
35 - 44	4.2	5.3	35.6	38.1
45 - 54	10.9	11.1	41.1	37.9
55 +	68.3	70.1	12.2	13.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(1) Included in the employed are those classified as working zero hours per week as they had a job at which they did not work during the survey week.

Unemployment

The definition of unemployment in this survey includes those who were looking for work in the survey week, but who did no work. Those who were laid-off during the survey week with definite instructions to return to work within 30 days of being laid-off are not classed as unemployed, unless, in addition, they were looking for work. The age distribution of the unemployed remained substantially unchanged between June 1 and August 31. According to the estimates for February, June and August, approximately 60 - 70 per cent of unemployment in Canada is of less than three months duration.

Table V--Regional Distribution of Unemployment

(Thousands of Persons, 14 Years of Age and Over)

Region	June 1		August 31	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Maritimes	21	16.7	20	17.1
Quebec	44	34.9	42	35.8
Ontario	33	26.2	36	30.7
Prairies	15	11.9	11	9.4
British Columbia	13	10.3	(a)	(a)
Canada	126	100.0	117	100.0

(a) Fewer than 10,000

Regionally, the Prairies showed the most substantial unemployment drop—4,000 below the June figure, against a rise of 3,000 for Ontario. Strikebound durable goods manufacturing industries account for the major part of the increase in unemployment in Ontario.

Unemployment down 9,000 from June 1—Estimated unemployment in Canada dropped 9,000 from the June figure to reach the 117,000 low at August 31. This marks a decrease of 50,000 from November 17 of last year. The unemployed now constitute approximately 2.4 per cent of the civilian labour force. Male unemployment showed a 12,000 drop from June, against a rise of 3,000 for women. Relative to other industries, unemployment in construction is negligible.

Table VI—Industrial Distribution of Unemployment (1)

(Thousands of Persons, 14 Years of Age and Over)

Region	June 1		August 31	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Manufacturing	43	34.1	42	35.8
Construction	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Transportation and Communication	10	7.9	10	8.5
Trade, finance and insurance	14	11.1	13	11.1
Service	16	12.7	14	11.9
Other (2)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
None (3)	28	22.2	23	19.6
Total	126	100.0	117	100.0

(1) Industry classifications are based on the last reported civilian job of two weeks' duration or more.

(2) Includes agriculture, fishing, trapping, mining and forestry.

(3) This class refers to those now seeking jobs who have never been employed previously.

(a) Fewer than 10,000.

The number of unplaced applicants registered at National Employment Service Offices yields a higher estimate of unemployment (145,000 at August 31), against the 117,000 estimate of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The discrepancy of 28,000 may be attributed to a difference in the classifications of casual workers and workers on temporary lay-off. Casual workers are classified as employed by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics if they worked at least one hour in the survey week ending June 1. There were 116,000 persons employed in non-agricultural industries working between one and twenty-four hours per week. A substantial proportion of these may have registered with an employment office, seeking full-time work, in which case they would be included as unplaced applicants.

Section 4:--OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Agricultural

Placement activity in agricultural industries reached its highest level for 1946 during September. The generally bountiful harvest yields throughout the country have been reflected in a steady rise in the number of work-orders filed in the past few months. Average weekly vacancies in agricultural industries totalled 2,239 in September as compared with 1,986 one month earlier. The transfer of workers to meet these demands has been more extensive this year than in 1945. During the period under review, slightly more than 100 transfers per week were recorded. Considerable farm help was recruited from the many workers on strike or those temporarily laid-off due to material shortages. Placements effected by National Employment Service offices gained 28 per cent during the month to total 1,517 per week for September.

Non-agricultural

An all-time high for 1946 was reached during September in the reporting of vacancies to National Employment Service offices. This jump, however, was confined largely to the logging industry, although gains were also reported in the construction and transportation industries. Similarly, applications for employment rose during September but to a lesser extent than vacancies. At the end of September, one-quarter of the applicants not referred to specific jobs were 45 years of age or over, with a large proportion in the "over 65" age group. Approximately one-tenth of the unreferred applicants at that date were under 20 years of age.

Referral activity gained slightly during September while practically no improvement was evident in the number of placements effected over the same period. Local employment offices report that placement activity is continually hampered by the lack of qualified applicants. In addition, the geographical distribution of labour demand and supply has resulted in areas of considerable labour surpluses, while shortages persist in other sections of the country. The transfer of workers is limited by the acute nationwide shortages of housing accomodation.

Vacancies Notified

(Reference Table I, Table II and Table VIII)

Peak reached in vacancies notified—Vacancies notified during September reached the highest level reported since October, 1945. One-fifth of the vacancies were in the logging industry which has expanded its labour needs to exceed even the comparative record for the previous year. Throughout other industries, expansion in permanent employment opportunities slumped during September, due in large part to prolonged strike activity which stifled vital material supply lines. Available permanent positions for women, on the other hand, have been growing. Recently, employers have been filing orders for replacement of married women, many of whom expect to withdraw when the 1947 income tax regulations come into force. Average weekly vacancies in non-agricultural industries totalled 42,000 in September, compared with 39,000 in August.

Sharp jump in job accumulation—Job orders were filled slowly in September which the result that the number on file at the end of the month were 21,000 in excess of those required four weeks earlier. Type of jobs available together with the present limited labour supply have deterred placement activity.

Problem of attracting labour to logging camps—During the past two months logging operators more than doubled their orders which by September reached a weekly 8,400 mark. At the end of September, 37,000 were on file. How can the Employment Service attract workers to woods labour? The following points are of value to Employment Officers seeking to interest applicants in this type of work.

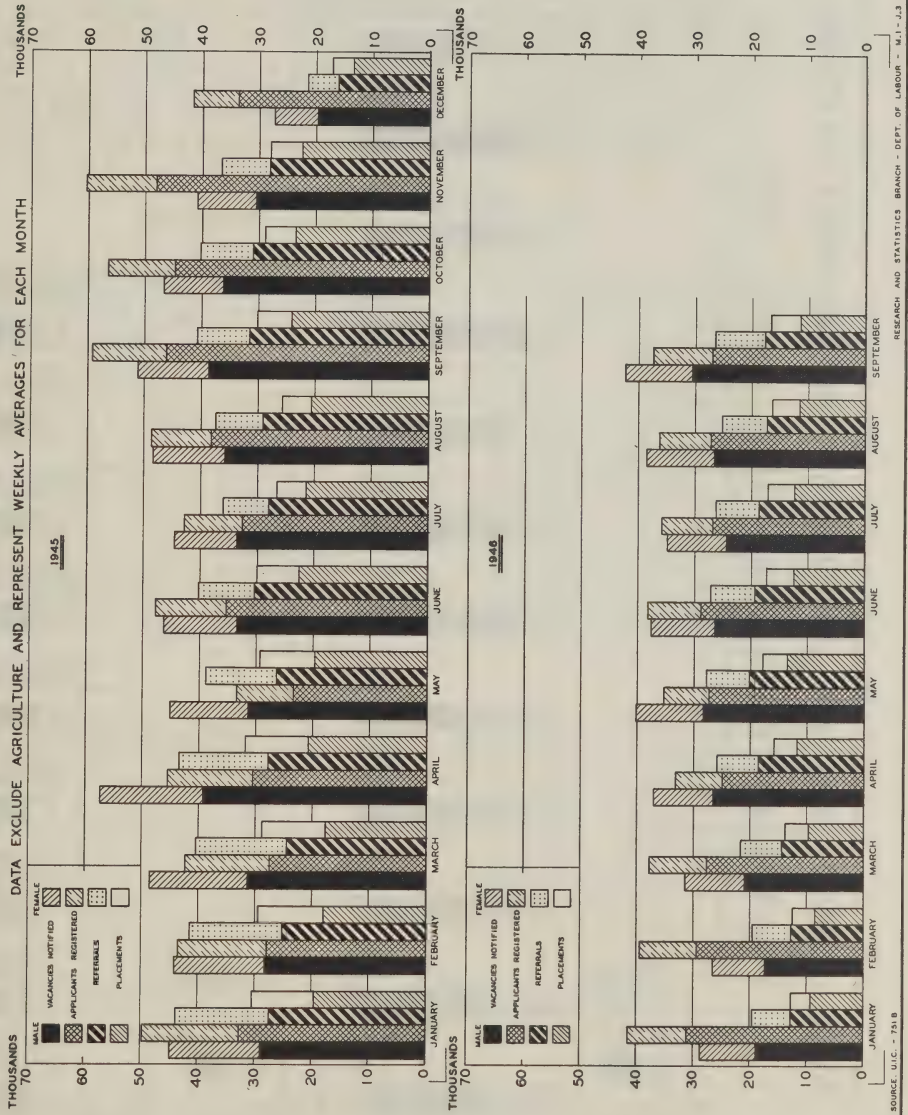
(1) Wages in logging camps compare favourably with many other industries. At August 1, per capita weekly earnings totalled \$32.31. If allowance is made for the cost of food and lodging at \$1 per day, per capita earnings reach \$39.31 per week. The comparative average weekly per capita earnings of all industries at August 1 totalled \$32.73.

(2) Security prospects for year-round employment have brightened. The present lively demands for both pulpwood and lumber have stimulated activity to such an extent that many operators are endeavouring to maintain a year-round cut. In addition, unemployment insurance coverage is increasing in this field; British Columbia loggers now are insured and possibilities of extending this to eastern Canada are under consideration.

(3) Outside work provides a healthy environment. There has already been an exodus of miners and foundry workers to the logging camps for this reason.

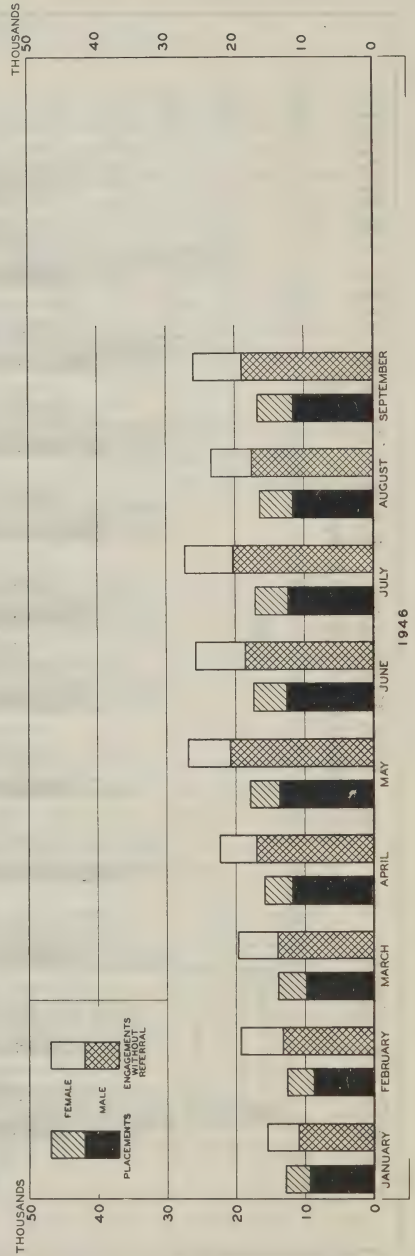
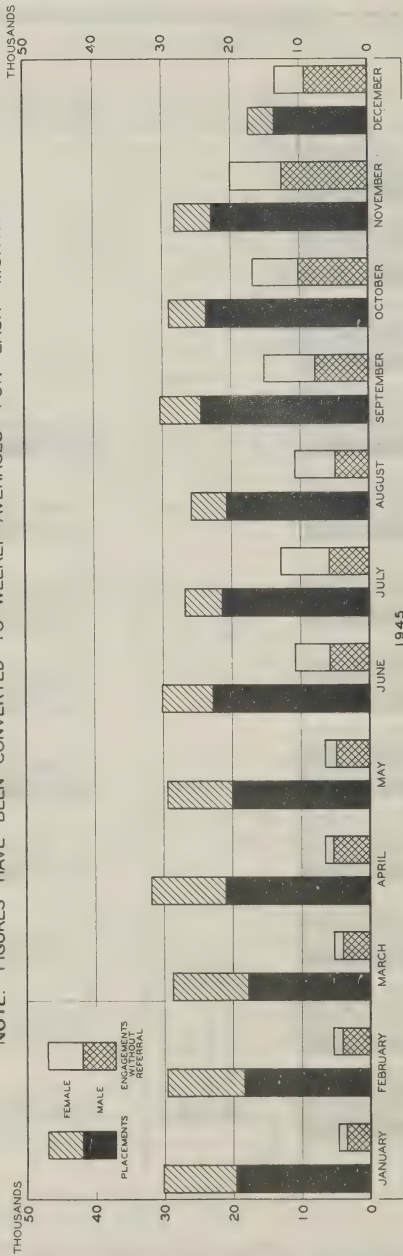
Manufacturing labour needs constant—With major strike issues remaining unsettled during September, there was little improvement in the labour situation in manufacturing industries. Vacancies were reported at a rate of 12,000 a week, with increases in lumber, metal, stone, clay and glass manufacturing firms more than offset by drops in iron and steel manufacturing and pulp and paper producing plants. Many of the vacancies represent jobs vacant due to labour turnover rather than expansion of employment.

OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ON A COMPARATIVE MONTHLY BASIS



PLACEMENTS BY THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AS COMPARED WITH WORKERS OBTAINING THEIR OWN JOBS

NOTE: FIGURES HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH



Expansion in vacancies in water transportation industries—The recent development of a special section for seamen in specified local offices has met with full co-operation from both shipping companies and sailors. Vacancies in water transportation industries jumped 43 per cent during September with an even greater rise evident in placement activity. The extension of unemployment insurance to cover seamen as at October 1, 1946, encourages unplaced workers to utilize to a greater extent the facilities offered by National Employment Service. The development of divisions for specific employment groups under the guidance of widely experienced advisers is an important step in selling professionalized service to the public.

Applicants Registered
(Reference - Table II and Table III)

Seasonal employment expansion met—The trend of employment during the spring months indicated that serious labour shortages might be felt during September, the month usually representing the employment peak. However, prolongation of strikes in major industries released thousands of strikers and other persons, temporarily laid off as a result of material shortages, into the labour market. These workers relieved the pressing labour needs of agriculture and food processing industries during heightened seasonal activity. Average weekly applications for employment in all non-agricultural industries during September totalled 37,000 with pronounced increases during the month reported in the number of women requesting work in Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia. An influx of job-seekers may be expected shortly with the recession in seasonal activity. Intensified Employers' Relation work, investigation of clearance possibilities, and analysis of training courses suitable to offer unskilled labour are being undertaken at the present time so that National Employment Service Offices will be able to cope with the increased supply of labour expected during the next few months.

Little reduction in unplaced applicants—The lull in industrial activity during September prevented the normal flow of workers into the employment stream. Postponement of expansion projects, necessitated by material shortages, curtailed the number of permanent job opportunities available. In addition, a large percentage of the present labour supply comprises either "unemployables" or those seeking only temporary employment while displaced as a result of labour disputes. Unplaced applicants at September 26, numbering almost 142,000, were only 2,700 fewer than the number quoted four weeks earlier.

Composition of labour market supply—At the end of September, approximately 130,000 workers had not been referred to specific jobs. These have been classed into four age groups which are listed below according to their "placability".

(1) Age group "20-44", comprising 62 per cent of the unreferred applicants or approximately 81,000 workmen, represents the age group most easily placed. Occupational analysis reveals that 29 per cent are seeking "white-collar" jobs and 32 per cent are listed for manual labour. This leaves only 39 per cent or approximately 32,000 workers to meet the demands for skilled industrial help.

(2) Age group "45-65", comprising 17 per cent of the total, or about 22,000 workers, represents an age group reluctantly accepted by employers. Twenty-five per cent of this group can do only light factory work while 10 per cent are seeking heavy unskilled work. Those in the "white-collar" occupations comprise 20 per cent and service workers 14 per cent. Placement of workers in this age group in permanent employment represents a difficult problem unless the applicants have highly specialized qualifications.

(3) Age group "under 20", represents 10 per cent of the available supply, or 13,000 workers. Workers in this age group are largely unskilled while about one-third are seeking "white-collar" positions. A specialized placement section has been set up in employment offices to direct "first jobbers" into suitable and profitable employment channels.

(4) Age group "over 65" comprises 11 per cent of the unreferred applicants, or 14,000 persons. More than one-half of the workers are qualified only for light factory work while many others are seeking service jobs. Permanent job vacancies for these persons are almost non-existent.

Women in the labour market—Unreferred female applicants, comprising 22 per cent of the total, numbered 28,000 at September 26. The bulk of workers are between 20-44 years of age. Proportionately, women predominate in the "under 20" age group. Thirty-five per cent of the women are registered as clerical help, 18 per cent for unskilled work, 15 for sales work and 13 for service jobs. Applicants generally lack the qualifications necessary to satisfy employers. Many are married persons who were drawn into the labour market during the extreme labour-tight war years, but since the evaporation of war jobs few suitable employment opportunities are now available in these centres. The family responsibilities of housewives together with the general housing shortage prevents the transfer of these workers to areas now in need of workers.

Vacancies exceed applications—Job orders received during September were well in excess of applications for employment. However, expansion of vacancies was concentrated entirely in Quebec and Ontario. In the Prairie and Maritime provinces, applications for employment exceeded vacancies.

Referrals

(Reference - Table IV and Table IX)

Referral activity shows slight gain—The steady rise in job-orders stimulated referral activity during September. More persons were referred to practically all industries, with the exception of mining. Trade, finance, and insurance firms showed marked gains due to the influx of orders in August. The success of the seamen's section is reflected in the 35 per cent increase in referrals to water transportation industries. The calibre of available labour supply at this time is the most serious factor deterring placement activity. Non-agricultural referrals averaged 26,000 a week in September as compared with a weekly average of 25,000 one month previous and 41,000 one year before.

Referrals per job available drop—The sharp gains in vacancies have not been reflected in proportionate increases in referral activity. During September, 37 referrals were effected for every 100 jobs available as compared with 39 per 100 in August. One year previous the ratio was 45:100.

Referrals per live applications low—The number of referrals effected per applicant available, which includes persons out-of-work at the beginning of the period and those registering during the month, has shrunk considerably during the year. For every 100 live applications, 36 referrals were effected during the current period as compared with 33 one month earlier, and 49 one year previous. This overall decline indicates the limited supply of suitable applicants currently available.

Placements

(Reference - Table V and Table X)

Significant developments during year—A comparison of activity at National Employment Service offices during September with that of the previous year reveals some very significant developments. Labour demand and supply factors varied greatly in the extent of change. Whereas vacancies reported by employers fell by only 17 per cent, applicants registering for work were 37 per cent fewer in number. Placements dwindled to little better than one-half the number reported last year while hiring outside the Employment Service jumped by almost 75 per cent. "Gate-post" hiring has been rapidly rising while placement activity at National Employment Service offices continues to shrink. During the current period, direct hiring was 36 per cent greater than that reported from National Employment Service offices. As Employment Service expands its specialized facilities and its scientific processes of matching workers and jobs, more and more employers and employees are being attracted to the offices. The success of specialized divisions is witnessed by the sharp jump in placements of seamen, following the recent inauguration of the seamen's division in the National Employment Service.

Composition of placements—Average weekly placements in industries other than agriculture totalled 17,000 a week during September. Declines in mining, service and construction industries were offset by increased placements in manufacturing, trade, and transportation industries. Increased female placements in Ontario accounted largely for the slight rise in total placements evident during September. Of the placements effected, 89 per cent were regular placements, 9 per cent represented hirings of seven days duration or less, while 2 per cent were the result of transference of help between local office areas.

Matching labour shortages and surpluses by clearance—Transference of labour by National Employment Service offices is an important factor in effective placement activity. Movement of miners from the areas of unemployment in Nova Scotia to Quebec and Ontario hardrock mines is expected shortly. Areas of labour surplus and labour shortage within occupational groups persist throughout the country. The existing labour situation for women is an example of this. Clerical workers are greatly in excess in Vancouver, Quebec City, Oshawa, Sault Ste. Marie; Toronto and Montreal report an urgent need for this type of worker. Three Rivers records a surplus of female textile workers, while the nearby areas of Victoriaville, St. Hyacinthe, Granby, and Sherbrooke show substantial demands for women for textile work. Sault Ste. Marie has a surplus of service workers while practically all other centres offer good opportunities for this type of help. Factory workers remain idle in Shawinigan Falls while manufacturing plants in Kitchener and London are unable to obtain sufficient workers. The most serious difficulty of such movements continues

to be the acute shortage of housing accommodation.

Effective referral rate rises—The number of referrals required to effect a placement dropped during September. Whereas in August 65 referrals were required for every 100 placements, during September the ratio was 63:100.

Engagements Without Referral
(Reference - Tables VII and XI)

Upswing in direct hiring—The abundance of temporary jobs requiring no specific skills and the growing stream of laid-off persons and strikers seeking short-time jobs at this time resulted in an increasing number of workers and jobs being brought together without the aid of the National Employment Service. Engagements without referral in non-agricultural industries averaged 26,000 a week in September as compared with 23,000 in August. Much of the rise took place in Ontario where the strike situation has greatly augmented the number presently seeking temporary jobs. Engagements into manufacturing firms rose 14 per cent from August to September with textiles, pulp and paper, food processing and machinery manufacturing plants particularly showing marked increases. Commencement of all "all-out" campaign for recruiting labour by woods operators brought a 43 per cent increase in engagements in logging camps. Increased engagement of women without referral was evident in trade, finance, and insurance establishments during September. A recession in engagements without referral, however, took place in the mining and construction industries.

Separations
(Reference - Table XII)

Separation rate continues upward—Separations from non-agricultural industries during September reached an all-time high for 1946. Lay-offs, due to prolonged strike action in plants manufacturing vital raw materials, swelled the ranks of those released from manufacturing plants. This was reflected in increased numbers leaving pulp and paper, iron and steel, and transportation manufacturing firms. Substantial rises in separations from trade, finance, and service establishments during September indicated the withdrawal of temporarily employed summer workers. A high degree of labour turnover is reflected in the sharp rise in separations in food processing plants and in the public and professional service. Average weekly separations in non-agricultural industries reached the 34,000 mark during September. Those reported during the two preceding months totalled 32,000 and 28,000 respectively.

Executive and Professional Offices
(Reference - Table VI)

Expanding facilities offered—Growing interest in Executive and Professional offices has been witnessed since their inauguration one year ago. Publicity campaigns among employers have brought to the employer's attention the opportunities offered by the centralization of positions requiring managerial and professional qualifications. These offices are able to secure the best qualified applicant within the region, and if desired, within Canada. At the same time, this class of applicant is realizing the value of such a clearing-house for employment opportunities

within his specialized field. Reports from offices indicate a heavy traffic of persons in the professional and managerial class who are endeavouring to better their present positions. A service to bring together key personnel and positions is of paramount importance in keeping industrial activity at a high level. In addition, it may serve to lessen the migration of this class of worker to the United States. The effectiveness of the service at the present time will depend largely on the adequacy of clearing orders. Up to the present, however, only 14 orders have been recorded as filled by clearance, which represents considerably less than one per cent of the total number placed.

Vacancies and placements jump--The statistics for September reveal stepped-up activity in placing workers and in reporting of vacancies while a sharp drop was evident in applicants registering. The rise in placements was general throughout the country, as schools and the public service increased their staffs. Placement activity in Executive and Professional offices has been largely in trade, finance, and service industries. Placing of women by these offices has been limited, due largely to the calibre of applicants registering. Placements totalled 44 (35 male and 9 female) per week in September as compared with 33 in August. Average-weekly vacancies rose from 154 in August to 246 in September, due in part to the influx of orders to staff the United Nations Organization. Applications during September dropped to 264 a week, due partially to the return of teachers to schools and colleges.

Current jobs available--At October 10, there were 1,368 vacancies (male 1,140 and female 228). Demand for engineers totalled 218, representing urgent requests for persons trained in practically all engineering fields, with mechanical, civil, and chemical engineers, especially in heavy demand. There were 161 draftsmen required, with the demand for architectural draftsmen being particularly acute. Auditors and accountants are urgently needed, the number required at October 10 totalling 55. Eighty-nine positions were vacant for teachers, 12 of which were on university faculties. In the managerial field 119 vacancies were available, with orders for retail store managers most prevalent. Vacancies for women were mainly for nurses, technicians, and dieticians, while positions in clerical and sales occupations were relatively few. There were 110 nurses and 13 dieticians required at the October date. Although there are few secretarial jobs on file, qualified help is greatly in demand in nearly all sections of the country. Unplaced applicants at that date numbered 2,227 with female workers accounting for approximately 10 per cent of the available supply.

Special Placements Section

Recent survey findings--The strike-ridden labour situation now prevailing in the economy, aggravates the difficulties of placing handicapped persons. Employers are hesitant to expand permanent staff with material supplies rapidly dwindling. However, Employers Relations Officers have been pointing out to employers the advisability of hiring impaired workers wherever possible. A recent survey undertaken by the Bureau of Labour Statistics in Washington reveals that the output and efficiency of seriously handicapped persons is noticeably greater than that for unimpaired workers. In addition, it points out that labour turnover is considerably lower while accident rates and absenteeism are approximately the same as for unimpaired persons.

Drop in placing of handicapped workers—There were 1,390 placements effected between August 15 and September 14; approximately one-quarter of these were for women. During the period July 15 to August 14, placements totalled 1,590. Those unplaced at the middle of September numbered 6,284 male and 535 female. Many of these applicants are elderly and except in abnormal circumstances cannot be expected to remain in the labour market. Elimination of the means test and lowering of the age limit in qualifying for old age pensions has been suggested as a way to encourage many of these in the "unemployable" class to withdraw from the labour market.

Facilities for placing youths—The Special Placement section of the National Employment Service is equipped to aid youths seeking employment for the first time. The work of this division is closely allied to the various vocational guidance schemes provided throughout the community. Employment advisors in this section of the Employment Service are required to be well-informed on existing employment opportunities in each occupation, including hours, wages, working conditions, future prospects, etc. Available listings of possible training courses, short-term, night classes and correspondence courses have proved a great aid in encouraging applicants to seek further training. Follow-up of placements also plays an important part in establishing youths in suitable employment. The first Canada Youth Employment Centre was opened in Toronto, on May 9, 1946. This centre offers to youths under 21, occupational tests and the advice of expert employment advisors.

Table I—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified
By Province, and by Sex, September, 1946.

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies		
	Male	Female	Total
CANADA.....	30,551	11,772	42,323
Maritime Provinces.....	1,413	669	2,082
Quebec.....	8,523	2,310	10,833
Ontario.....	13,034	5,406	18,440
Prairie Provinces.....	3,645	1,934	5,579
British Columbia.....	3,936	1,453	5,389

Table II—Unreferred Applicants by Age Group and by Sex, With Percentage Registered as Unskilled, as at September 26, 1946

(Source: Forms UIC 757-759)

Age Group	Male	Per Cent Unskilled	Female	Per Cent Unskilled	Total	Per Cent Unskilled
TOTAL.....	101,370	42	28,333	18	129,703	36
Under 20.....	8,172	62	4,943	21	13,115	47
20 - 45	60,565	38	20,015	17	80,580	32
46 - 65	19,371	38	3,025	16	22,396	35
Over 65	13,262	54	350	12	13,612	53

Table III—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified And Applicants Registered, by Province, During September, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies		Average Weekly Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
CANADA.....	42,323	100	37,389	100
Maritime Provinces.....	2,082	5	2,921	8
Quebec.....	10,833	26	9,237	25
Ontario.....	18,440	43	13,922	37
Prairie Provinces.....	5,579	13	6,410	17
British Columbia.....	5,389	13	4,899	13

Table IV—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Referrals by Sex, From September, 1945 to September, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Month	Male	Female	Total
September, 1945.....	31,653	9,303	40,956
October ".....	31,197	8,924	40,121
November ".....	28,238	8,669	36,907
December ".....	16,198	5,448	21,646
January, 1946.....	12,949	6,795	19,744
February ".....	12,924	6,725	19,649
March ".....	14,547	7,400	21,947
April ".....	18,742	7,286	26,028
May ".....	20,224	7,683	27,907
June ".....	19,416	7,868	27,284
July ".....	18,693	7,580	26,273
August ".....	17,310	7,915	25,225
September ".....	17,830	8,468	26,298

Table V—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Placements by Sex,
From September, 1945, to September, 1946.

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Month	Male	Female	Total
September, 1945.....	24,239	5,972	30,211
October ".....	23,621	5,379	29,000
November ".....	22,823	5,307	28,130
December ".....	13,765	3,703	17,468
January, 1946.....	9,177	3,763	12,940
February ".....	8,643	3,816	12,459
March ".....	9,812	4,159	13,971
April ".....	11,871	4,059	15,930
May ".....	13,598	4,387	17,985
June ".....	12,682	4,686	17,368
July ".....	12,350	4,665	17,015
August ".....	11,573	4,787	16,360
September ".....	11,508	5,083	16,591

Table VI—Average Weekly Placement Operations of Executive and
Professional Offices During September, 1946.

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Office	Applications	Vacancies	Referrals	Placements
Total.....	264	246	161	44
Moncton.....	15	10	12	6
Montreal.....	98	67	43	14
Toronto.....	89	134	58	13
Winnipeg.....	13	19	17	5
Vancouver.....	49	16	31	6

Table VII—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Engagements Without Referral,
By Province During August, 1946 and September, 1946, With Percentage
Change During Month.

(Source: UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Engagements		
	Sept. 1946	Aug. 1946	Per Cent Change
Canada.....	26,009	23,381	+10
Maritime Provinces.....	1,585	1,537	+ 3
Quebec.....	8,525	7,645	+10
Ontario.....	9,442	7,918	+16
Prairie Provinces.....	3,023	2,927	+ 3
British Columbia.....	3,434	3,354	+ 2

Table VIII—Non-agricultural Vacancies Notified as Reported by the
National Employment Service, September, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Vacancies During Month	Average Weekly Vacancies		
		Number	% Change From	
			August 1946	September 1945
All industries.....	169,290	42,323	9.5	-17.4
Logging.....	33,614	8,404	44.9	6.2
Mining.....	3,949	987	- 2.9	-22.2
Manufacturing.....	48,670	12,168	- 1.8	-26.7
Food and kindred products.....	11,934	2,983	- 2.5	-15.9
Textiles, apparel, etc.	7,711	1,928	- 2.8	-28.7
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	5,604	1,401	3.9	-25.9
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	4,283	1,071	- 9.4	-20.6
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,359	340	6.3	-39.4
Products of petroleum and coal.....	362	90	5.9	-18.9
Rubber goods.....	680	170	13.3	-50.7
Leather and products.....	1,318	330	- 3.0	-35.4
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,550	387	6.3	-24.7
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,340	835	-14.2	-42.5
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,953	488	3.8	1.7
Machinery.....	3,734	934	- 3.4	-35.3
Transportation equipment.....	3,099	775	2.1	-33.0
Miscellaneous.....	1,743	436	10.4	-20.0
Construction.....	21,285	5,321	11.6	-20.9
Transportation and storage.....	9,761	2,440	21.4	-28.4
Other public utilities.....	1,667	417	-22.5	-31.4
Trade.....	17,839	4,460	7.5	-19.7
Finance and insurance.....	2,029	507	-17.3	-24.1
Public and professional service.....	9,181	2,295	1.2	- 8.9
Other service.....	21,295	5,324	4.8	-10.6

Table IX—Non-agricultural Referrals as Reported by the
National Employment Service, September, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Refer- rals During Month	Average Weekly Referrals		
		Number	% Change From	
			August 1946	September 1945
All industries.....	105,193	26,298	4.3	-35.8
Logging.....	3,568	892	16.6	-70.5
Mining.....	2,409	602	-15.8	-48.4
Manufacturing.....	34,085	8,521	5.6	-41.3
Food and kindred products.....	7,426	1,856	5.6	-39.6
Textiles, apparel, etc.	4,675	1,169	4.8	-38.0
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	4,227	1,057	9.4	-36.9
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	2,603	651	- 5.9	-45.1
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,227	307	12.9	-44.8
Products of petroleum and coal.....	368	92	43.8	-30.3
Rubber goods.....	351	88	22.2	-73.3
Leather and products.....	726	181	- 2.2	-48.1
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,343	336	18.7	-33.6
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,060	765	- 1.9	-50.8
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,573	393	- 0.8	-19.3
Machinery.....	3,227	807	8.3	-37.1
Transportation equipment.....	2,101	525	14.4	-47.2
Miscellaneous.....	1,178	294	3.9	-41.4
Construction.....	15,290	3,822	- 4.0	-35.5
Transportation and storage.....	6,684	1,671	13.2	-46.6
Other public utilities.....	1,167	292	4.7	-45.7
Trade.....	16,764	4,191	10.1	-23.0
Finance and insurance.....	1,982	495	15.4	-15.5
Public and professional service.....	7,042	1,761	- 0.5	-19.6
Other service.....	16,202	4,051	2.9	- 8.9

Table X—Non-agricultural Placements as Reported by the
National Employment Service, September, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Place- ments During Month	Average Weekly Placements		
		Number	% Change From August 1946	September 1945
All industries.....	66,363	16,591	1.4	-45.1
Logging.....	2,723	681	0.7	-74.9
Mining.....	1,758	440	-14.7	-47.6
Manufacturing.....	20,963	5,241	5.0	-50.0
Food and kindred products.....	4,822	1,205	16.3	-47.0
Textiles, apparel, etc.	2,931	733	4.9	-44.5
Lumber and finished lumber products.....	2,690	672	- 3.5	-46.5
Pulp and paper products and printing.....	1,745	436	- 4.4	-50.2
Chemicals and allied products.....	586	146	- 1.4	-61.9
Products of petroleum and coal.....	165	41	24.2	-52.3
Rubber goods.....	249	62	29.2	-75.8
Leather and products.....	367	92	- 6.1	-64.5
Stone, clay and glass products.....	815	204	14.0	-37.2
Iron and steel and their products.....	1,714	429	- 2.7	-61.1
Non-ferrous metals.....	987	247	4.2	-21.1
Machinery.....	1,826	457	7.8	-46.2
Transportation equipment.....	1,442	361	8.1	-58.7
Miscellaneous.....	624	156	- 3.7	-49.2
Construction.....	10,725	2,681	- 8.4	-43.3
Transportation and storage.....	4,971	1,243	25.2	-47.7
Other public utilities.....	706	176	- 6.9	-53.9
Trade.....	8,809	2,202	6.6	-38.4
Finance and insurance.....	831	208	- 0.5	-42.9
Public and professional service.....	4,306	1,076	-11.9	-34.0
Other service.....	10,571	2,643	2.7	-15.5

Table XI--Non-agricultural Engagements Without Referral as Reported
by the National Employment Service, September, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Engage- ments During Month	Average Weekly Engagements		
		Number	% Change From	
			August 1946	September 1945
All industries	104,036	26,009	11.2	72.6
Logging	15,356	3,839	42.7	237.9
Mining	2,610	652	-18.4	170.5
Manufacturing	35,537	8,884	14.2	62.7
Food and kindred products.....	7,564	1,891	13.2	47.3
Textiles, apparel, etc.	5,791	1,448	26.7	35.8
Lumber and finished lumber products..	4,026	1,006	0.8	92.7
Pulp and paper products and printing.	3,502	875	24.5	69.2
Chemicals and allied products.....	921	230	9.5	2.2
Products of petroleum and coal.....	253	63	-25.0	23.5
Rubber goods.....	511	128	18.5	73.0
Leather and products.....	1,282	321	13.8	53.6
Stone, clay and glass products.....	943	236	-4.5	82.9
Iron and steel and their products....	2,575	644	0.6	53.0
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,212	303	10.6	119.6
Machinery.....	3,044	761	17.1	165.2
Transportation equipment.....	2,512	628	14.0	84.2
Miscellaneous.....	1,401	350	57.7	76.8
Construction.....	11,488	2,872	-13.7	206.5
Transportation and storage.....	6,349	1,587	10.2	62.1
Other public utilities.....	1,668	417	-1.7	70.9
Trade.....	13,800	3,450	37.2	25.7
Finance and insurance.....	1,656	414	15.3	13.4
Public and professional service.....	7,094	1,774	1.4	79.0
Other service.....	8,478	2,120	-7.8	7.6

Table XII—Non-agricultural Separations as Reported
by the National Employment Service, September, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Separ- ations During Month	Average Weekly Separations		
		Number	% Change From	
			August 1946	September 1945
All industries	136,416	34,104	7.7	-26.0
Logging	7,023	1,756	- 0.8	- 7.9
Mining	4,489	1,122	0.2	7.0
Manufacturing	56,542	14,136	7.2	-42.3
Food and kindred products	9,113	2,278	17.3	- 5.2
Textiles, apparel, etc.	8,064	2,016	2.3	0.1
Lumber and finished lumber products...	5,185	1,296	- 3.4	- 8.1
Pulp and paper products and printing..	5,442	1,360	13.0	8.8
Chemicals and allied products	1,791	448	- 4.5	-57.9
Products of petroleum and coal	675	169	23.4	19.9
Rubber goods	812	203	16.7	-46.4
Leather and products	1,588	397	-12.6	4.2
Stone, clay and glass products.....	2,066	517	1.8	60.1
Iron and steel and their products	5,568	1,392	15.0	-61.8
Non-ferrous metals	2,530	633	11.4	-18.6
Machinery	4,760	1,190	- 2.7	-36.5
Transportation equipment	6,932	1,733	12.8	-79.2
Miscellaneous	2,016	504	13.0	- 3.6
Construction	16,362	4,091	- 2.1	13.7
Transportation and storage	7,738	1,934	2.7	-33.7
Other public utilities	2,581	645	31.4	19.9
Trade	15,173	3,793	12.5	- 8.9
Finance and insurance	2,444	611	10.1	0.5
Public and professional service	9,438	2,359	13.3	-19.2
Other service	14,626	3,657	20.9	- 5.5

PART II

DEMOBILIZATION AND RECONVERSION

Section I:--ACTIVITIES OF EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

The rate of demobilization underwent a sharp change when the number released during September dropped almost 7,000 from the previous month. Most of this change is due to the decrease in army discharges.

National Employment Service offices reported a decrease in the number of applications for work during the month. The number of placements made also tapered off but not to the same extent as applications. Reinstatements in civil employment continued to decline, reflecting the slackened flow of releases from the armed forces.

The number of unplaced ex-servicemen decreased substantially during September. Similarly, the number unplaced 15 days or more took a sharp drop. Jobless veterans made up 32 per cent of the total unplaced applicants. There was a decline in the number seeking out-of-work benefits during the month. With substantial declines in job applicants, those unplaced at the end of the period, and requests for out-of-work benefits, it is evident that the employment situation for veterans has improved markedly.

Advance reports for October indicate that the progress made in placement activities during the last few months will be maintained. Summer seasonal industries will continue to employ men for some time so that no rapid influx from this source is expected immediately by the employment offices.

Education and Training

The end of the summer brought renewed activity in the educational field. Through the close co-operation of the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the various training centres, plans were made to meet the influx of veteran students. When universities opened in September, 35,000 ex-service personnel were enrolled in the various courses. Another 35,898 students were engaged in courses under the Canadian Vocational Training program. Of this number, 12,557 were training in Canadian Vocational Training centres, 11,310 taking on-the-job training in industry, 6,411 in pre-matriculation courses, and 5,620 in private schools or correspondence courses.

Discharges

(Reference Table I)

Sharp drop in number discharged—The current anticipated drop in the number of service personnel to be discharged marks the end of mass demobilization. There were 11,693 released during September as compared with 18,443 one month earlier. The number discharged from the Navy and Air Force showed little change during the two months while Army discharges dropped almost 6,000. According to estimates there are only about 18,000 to be released from the armed services. Some of these persons, however, may choose to remain in some branch of the Permanent Force. The total number discharged since the beginning of the war now stands at approximately 975,000.

At the end of September the effective strength of the armed forces was 49,300. This figure excludes deserters, those missing, those on extended leave and those seconded.

Applications for Employment in National Employment Service Offices

(Reference Table II)

Revivals now exceed new applicants—During September the number of ex-servicemen applying for work at National Employment Service Offices dropped more than 3,300; as 41,329 were reported compared with 44,644 during August. The sharp decline in discharges coupled with the fact that many are getting jobs through their own efforts has been largely responsible for this decline. Of the 41,329 veterans making application, 39,485 were males and 1,844 females. While the number of ex-servicewomen seeking work remains relatively small, it increased during September in contrast to the downward trend among male ex-service personnel. Applications from 2,958 veterans of World War I and from 799 having dual service were received.

The changing emphasis between new applicants of World War II and revivals is becoming increasingly significant. At the end of July those applying for work for the first time approximately equalled those previously employed. By the end of September there were 5,000 more applications from previously employed persons than from new applicants. This trend will continue until the number of new applicants will form a very small portion of the applications. The group classified as revivals constituted 51 per cent of the total ex-service applications during September as compared with 48 per cent one month earlier.

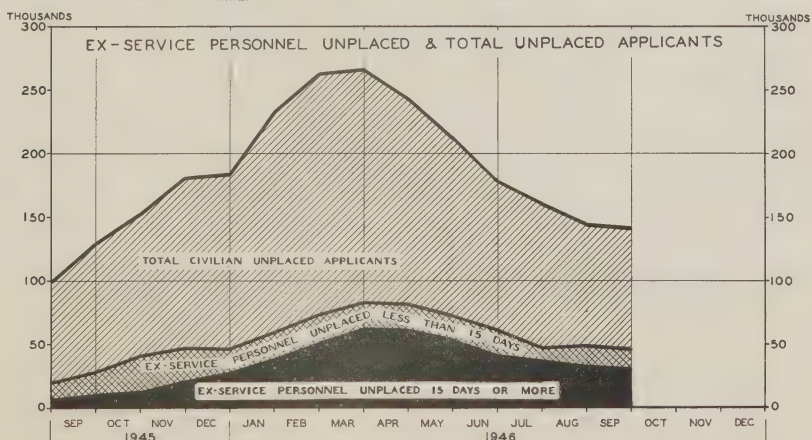
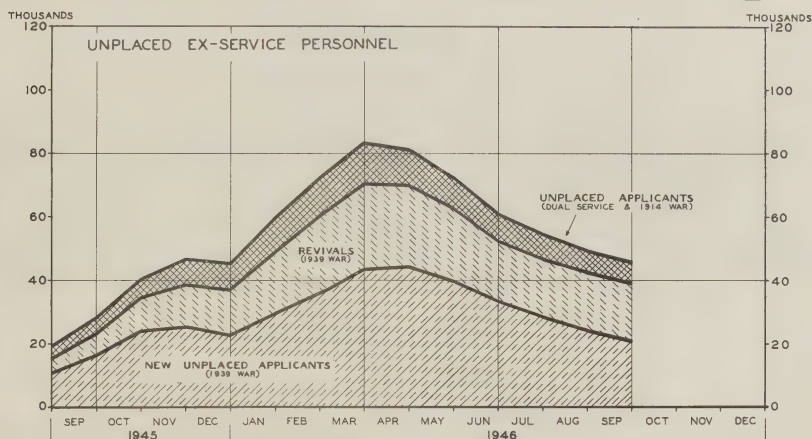
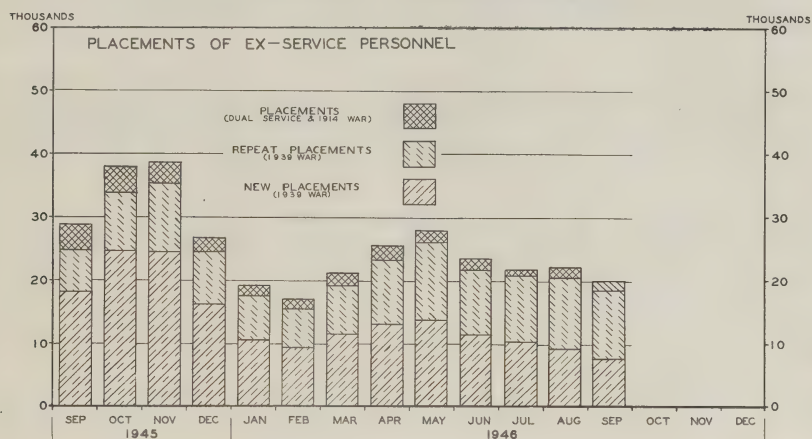
Placements

(Reference Table III)

Veterans received one-quarter of placements—According to reports from National Employment Service offices, more vacancies were reported during September than in any one month thus far in 1946. Placement of ex-service personnel dropped, however, although not to the same extent as applications. During September, 20,106 veterans were placed and 4,580 had been referred to specific jobs but notification of their placement or rejection had not been received. One month earlier 22,175 veterans were placed and 4,136 referred to specific jobs. It is significant that 23 per cent of all World War II

APPLICANTS AND PLACEMENTS

EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL



applicants were placed during September while only 14 per cent of World War I and dual service applicants received appointments. The latter group is made up of men more than 45 years of age, who are difficult to place in permanent jobs.

Veterans received 26 per cent of the total placements effected by National Employment Service offices. Twenty-two per cent of all those making application during the month and those unplaced at the beginning of the month, were placed. The civilian equivalent was 27 per cent.

By means of publicity in the newspapers, talks before businessmen's clubs, and radio broadcasts, National Employment Service and the Casualty Rehabilitation Branch of the Department of Veteran's Affairs are pointing out the possibilities of disabled veterans in industry rather than their limitations. Although these men are physically handicapped, they are able in many cases to perform work more efficiently than the unimpaired. During the period August 15 to September 15 there were 594 ex-servicemen placed. At the end of the period, 1,987, or 29 per cent of all handicapped persons registered as unplaced, were ex-service personnel.

Reinstatements

(Reference Table IV)

Reinstatements continue to taper off—The number reinstated in civilian jobs continued to decline during the month when 3,706 returned to their pre-war occupations as compared with 4,761 during August. Another 248 persons applied for reinstatement but at the end of the period had not been accepted. The group of veterans eligible for reinstatement is shrinking, reflecting the declining rate of discharges. Since August, 1945, approximately 165,083 have been reinstated.

Unplaced Applicants

(Reference Table V and Table VI)

Job-seekers follow downward trend—The decreased flow of personnel from the armed forces coupled with expanding employment opportunities has caused the number of unplaced ex-servicemen to drop sharply. At the end of September, 46,147 were reported as unplaced as compared with 49,526 at the end of August. Of the veterans out of work at the end of September, 31,062 or 67 per cent had been registered 15 days or more. One month earlier this group numbered 33,504, constituting 68 per cent of the total. At the end of the three months prior to September, unplaced ex-servicemen made up 34 per cent of all unplaced applicants. This proportion dropped to 32 per cent at the end of the current period.

Discharged personnel of World War II only, comprised 85 per cent of ex-servicemen unplaced at the end of September, while 13 per cent served in World War I and the balance in both wars.

The improved labour situation is reflected in the decline in the number of veterans seeking out of work benefits, as provided under the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order. At the end of September there were 16,533 collecting out of work payments. In addition, 4,337 applications for benefit had been received but payment had not yet started.

Occupational Classification of Ex-Service Personnel

(Reference Table VII)

Number of unskilled now greater than skilled—The most important change in occupational classification took place in the distribution of unplaced workers between the skilled and unskilled classes. In August, these groups were approximately equal in number, each constituting 35 per cent of those unplaced. Prior to that time, the skilled and semi-skilled have formed a larger portion of the whole than the unskilled. At the end of September the pattern was changed when the percentage of unskilled workers was 11 points higher than the skilled and semi-skilled group. The veteran skilled and semi-skilled constituted 34 per cent of the total unplaced and the unskilled 35 per cent as compared with the civilian equivalent of 27 and 38 respectively.

There was a slight percentage increase in the number registering for office work. Other occupations registered only minor changes during the month.

Future Prospects

With the number yet to be demobilized from the forces now set at approximately 18,000, the monthly discharges during the remainder of 1946 are not expected to exceed 4,000 in November and 3,500 in December. With no large-scale influx of men into the labour market at the present time, the employment officers will endeavour to decrease the backlog of unplaced workers. By the end of November, men who have been working in seasonal occupations will again be seeking employment. Many able-bodied veterans will be attracted to jobs in the woods to tide them over until next spring. A settlement of the strikes in basic industries will increase the demand for both skilled and unskilled workers, thus relieving the critical labour situation now existing in many strike-torn centres.

Table I—Number Discharged from Armed Forces, by Months,
September, 1945 to September, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence)

Month	Navy	Army	Air Force	Total
September, 1945.....	9,878	34,093	30,773	74,744
October "	14,931	45,994	32,042	92,967
November "	15,712	35,813	13,873	65,398
December "	7,668	22,118	8,454	38,240
January, 1946.....	7,560	40,735	8,554	56,849
February "	7,552	48,665	9,019	65,235
March "	5,493	56,512	8,641	70,646
April "	4,998	44,439	6,325	55,762
May "	2,743	29,728	6,005	38,476
June "	1,768	17,081	4,048	22,897
July "	542	16,169	3,548	20,259
August "	678	14,804	2,961	18,443
September "	537	9,051	2,105	11,693

Table II—Discharges from Armed Forces and Applications of World War II
Dischargees by Months, September, 1945 to September, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Discharges	Applications	
		New Applicants	Revivals
September, 1945	74,744	31,351	12,092
October "	92,967	43,586	18,546
November "	65,398	37,726	20,329
December "	38,240	24,934	16,133
January, 1946	56,843	27,641	18,568
February "	65,235	25,025	17,075
March "	70,646	30,400	18,271
April "	55,762	26,288	16,874
May "	38,476	25,216	19,807
June "	22,897	20,166	18,961
July "	20,253	20,346	20,807
August "	18,443	18,972	21,471
September "	11,693	16,330	21,242

Table III—Live Applications and Placements of Ex-Servicemen
with Civilian Comparison, September, 1945 to September, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B and Form U.I.C. 751B)

Month	Live Applications (1)	Placements (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per cent (3)	Civilian Equivalents of (3)
September, 1945	69,292	29,321	42.3	38.4
October "	98,125	38,298	39.0	34.3
November "	106,955	38,674	36.2	29.5
December "	93,652	26,653	28.5	21.4
January, 1946	98,002	19,454	19.9	15.7
February "	106,295	16,831	15.8	12.9
March "	125,474	21,238	16.9	14.7
April "	130,062	25,505	19.6	17.2
May "	130,206	28,522	21.9	19.6
June "	115,432	23,654	20.5	21.5
July "	106,429	23,776	22.3	23.6
August "	99,379	22,175	22.3	24.2
September "	90,855	20,106	22.1	26.8

Table IV—Cumulative Discharges and Reinstatements
Monthly, September, 1945 to September, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 8212)

Month	Cumulative Discharges since Sept. 1, 1945 (1)	Cumulative Reinstatements since Sept. 1, 1945 (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per cent
September 30, 1945	112,110	12,264	10.9
October 31, "	205,077	30,307	14.8
November 30, "	270,475	48,017	17.8
December 31, "	308,715	60,320	19.5
January 31, 1946	365,564	77,648	21.2
February 28, "	430,799	95,013	22.1
March 31, "	501,445	114,147	22.7
April 30, "	557,207	131,127	23.5
May 31, "	595,683	143,230	24.0
June 30, "	618,580	150,895	24.4
July 31, "	638,839	156,616	24.5
August 31, "	657,282	161,377	24.6
September 30, "	668,975	165,083	24.7

Table V—Unplaced Ex-servicemen and Those Unplaced 15 Days or More
as at the End of the Month, September, 1945 to September, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Unplaced Ex-service- men (1)	Ex-servicemen Unplaced 15 Days or more (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per cent
September 30, 1945	27,770	10,098	36.4
October 31, "	40,780	13,977	34.3
November 30, "	46,503	20,775	44.7
December 31, "	45,974	27,887	60.7
January 31, 1946	59,861	37,364	62.4
February 28, "	72,305	50,286	69.5
March 31, "	83,029	61,018	73.5
April 30, "	81,207	61,292	75.5
May 31, "	72,370	52,722	72.9
June 30, "	61,168	44,587	72.9
July 31, "	54,735	37,765	69.0
August 31, "	49,526	33,504	67.6
September 30, "	46,147	31,062	67.3

Table VI--Number of Ex-Service Personnel Claiming Out-of-Work Benefits and Number of Benefit Payments made, February to September, 1946

(Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Date	Live Claims as at End of Month	Benefit Payments During Last Week of Month
February, 1946	30,473	19,715
March "	43,729	34,637
April "	41,857	32,364
May "	37,291	33,297
June "	30,677	25,051
July "	25,463	20,713
August "	21,939	19,321
September "	20,870	16,533

Table VII--Percentage Distribution of Occupational Categories of Unplaced Ex-Service Personnel as at Selected Dates, February, May, August, and September, 1946.

(Source: Forms U.I.C. 757 and 759 for Ex-Service Personnel)

Occupational Group	Feb. 28 1946	May 31 1946	Aug. 31 1946	Sept. 30 1946
Professional and managerial workers..	4.5	4.5	6.1	6.4
Clerical workers.....	9.7	9.1	11.1	11.3
Sales workers.....	6.2	5.9	6.4	6.4
Service workers.....	5.2	4.8	5.4	5.6
Agricultural workers.....	2.4	3.2	1.4	1.3
Fishermen.....	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7
Skilled and semi-skilled workers.....	36.9	36.9	34.5	33.6
Food products.....	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3
Textiles, clothing, etc.	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4
Lumber and wood products.....	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9
Pulp and paper products.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Printing.....	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3
Leather and products.....	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
Stone, clay and glass.....	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Electrical.....	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4
Mining and quarrying.....	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5
Construction workers.....	5.4	4.9	3.6	3.4
Metalworkers.....	6.1	6.0	6.4	6.5
Miscellaneous.....	21.2	21.8	20.0	19.4
Unskilled workers.....	34.7	35.1	34.5	34.7
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

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Section 2:--EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

The Meat Products Industry

Employment—From 1933 to 1939 a slight upward movement in the secular trend of meat packing employment occurred but this was relatively insignificant when compared to the increase which took place under the impetus of abnormal wartime demand. During the war, employment almost doubled. At September 1, 1939, about 12,000 employees were working in slaughtering and meat packing plants; at the same date in 1944 the figure was approximately 22,000. The rate of increase was fairly steady until 1944 when a big jump occurred. The annual percentage increases were as follows: 1940-10%; 1941-14%; 1942-5%; 1943-8%; 1944-28%. In 1945, employment dropped 1.2 points below the previous year's level.

The sharp decline in employment which took place from February 1945 to August 1945 (see accompanying chart) had three major causes, namely, a slump in hog marketings, a strike from July 17 to August 3, and normal seasonal decline. Two important factors in connection with this decrease in hog production were the western farmer's natural preference for growing grain and the higher prices prevailing for wheat. By the fall of 1945, however, greatly increased numbers of cattle were available for slaughter and reported employment shot up to 25,000, an all-time high.

After experiencing a steady downward trend for the first six months of 1946, when the 1945 low of 19,000 was reached, reported employment rose slightly during the summer, reaching the 22,000 mark. Continuing high demand, disputes between the farmer and the packing plants, reduced livestock production, and the seasonal trend, have been the major factors in determining this employment trend. It is instructive to remember that while the August 1, 1946 figure for reported employment was 12 per cent below last December's peak, it was still 75 per cent above the figure for same period in 1939.

As is suggested by the chart the peak employment period in slaughtering and meat packing plants for the annual period occurs at the end of the year. Reports received by the Department of Labour from the "Big Three" meat packers indicate that this year's activity will follow the normal seasonal pattern quite closely, as these employers forecast an increase of 7 per cent in their staffs in the last four months of 1946. The same companies expect to lay off 18 per cent of their employees in the first three months of 1947. The remainder of the industry's operators can be expected to follow a similar pattern..These

short term forecasts are based almost entirely on estimates of livestock which will be delivered to the plants for slaughter.

Inspected slaughterings—From 1939 to 1944, the annual slaughterings of cattle in Canadian yards rose from 873,000 to 1,354,000 a gain of 55 per cent, whereas hog slaughterings jumped from 3,628,000 in 1939 to 8,766,000 in 1944 or a gain of 142 per cent. In 1945, however, hog marketings dropped 35 per cent from 1944 while cattle went up 54 per cent. This decrease in hog production was due in part to the fact that cattle raising is less laborious and less costly and also to the good prices for wheat prevailing in the latter years of the war.

While this continued downward trend in hog slaughterings has caused agricultural leaders some concern, recent reports indicate that the drop has been stemmed. The bumper western wheat crop ensures an ample supply of feed grain and a heavy demand for breeding stock has developed. As a result, experts predict bacon production for 1947 will be well above 1946.

The first nine months of 1946 have seen decreases, as compared with 1945, in inspected slaughterings of cattle (down 7 per cent), calves (5 per cent), and hogs (38 per cent). To the end of September sheep slaughterings had risen 20 per cent over the same period in the previous year.

Wage rates—No general average of wage rates in the meat products industry is published, but rates in the more important occupations are listed in Table I. In Canada as a whole, boners and butchers (including slaughterers) have the highest wage rates. Both packers and sausage makers are occupations in which a high percentage of women are employed which partially accounts for their low wage rate. The sex breakdown given for sausage makers illustrates the wage differential between male and female employees doing the same type of work. By province, wage rates are the lowest in Quebec, while B.C. rates are the highest in many cases.

Table I shows that while the general index of wage rates in the meat products industry rose 29 per cent from 1939 to 1944, the general index of wage rates in all industries rose 37.5 per cent in the same period. When measured in terms of "real" wages this meant an increase of 10 per cent in the purchasing power of the average meat products worker. In the same period, the percentage of salaries and wages in the gross value of production dropped 2 per cent. This was due to the fact that the increased volume of business was handled by a relatively smaller labour force, and while the worker was not receiving as high a proportion of the gross value of production, he was nevertheless receiving a higher wage.

STRATEGIC FACTORS IN SELECTED CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

1945 AND 1946

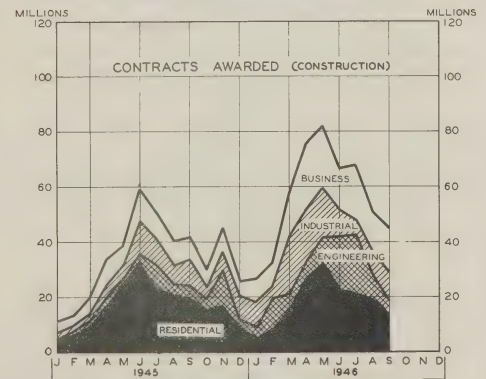
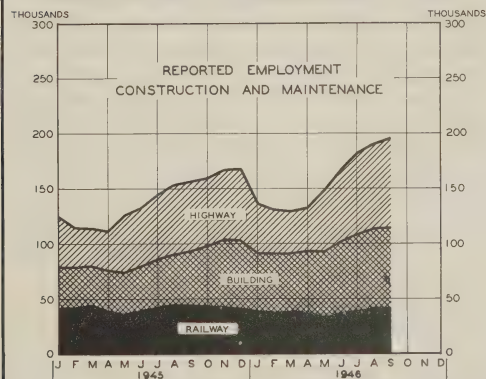
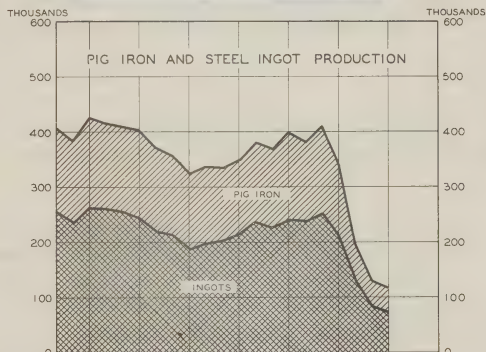
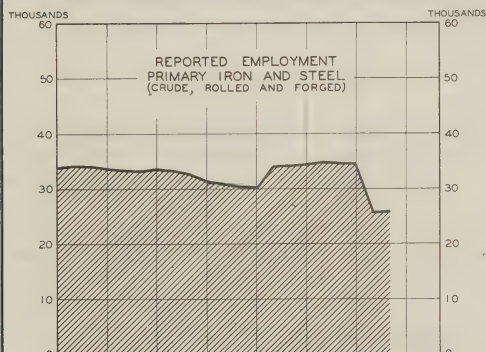
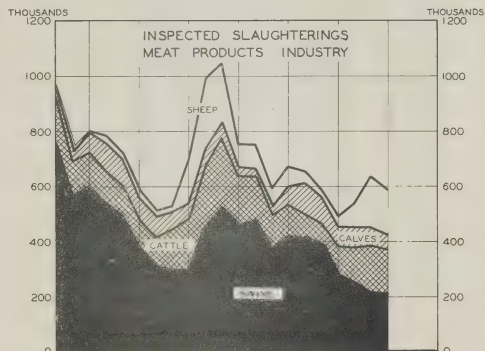
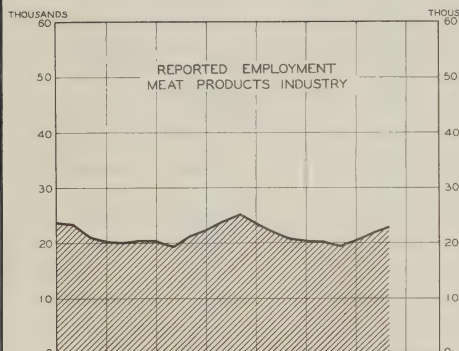


Table I—Average Wage Rates per Hour in the Meat Products Industry by Occupation and Province, 1945 (1)

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour)

Occupation	Canada	Que.	Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B. C.
Boners.....	.718	.656	.729	.743	.719	.711	.742
Casing Makers.....	.669	.650	.692	.699	.633	.654	.718
Coolers and Freezers.....	.660	.624	.682	.661	.633	.658	.706
Curers and Cellarmen.....	.661	.606	.672	.661	.653	.637	.706
General Butchers (2).....	.710	.678	.726	.708	.665	.724	.759
Lard Makers.....	.672	.577	.684	.688	.672	.689	.710
Motor Truck Drivers.....	.678	.631	.668	.697	.661	.725	.723
Packers.....	.648	.645	.605	.660	.650	.635	.686
Sausage Makers (M).....	.667	.641	.679	.664	.595	.671	.726
Sausage Makers (F).....	.499	.448	.504	.504	.506	.531	.517
Shippers.....	.657	.613	.660	.650	.667	.654	.730
Trimmers.....	.688	.704	.688	.676	.689	.693	.722

(1) Rates from Maritime Provinces included in Canada Average but not shown separately to avoid disclosing confidential information.

(2) Includes Slaughterers.

Future prospects—By 1945, the meat products industry was producing at three times its pre-war capacity. The vital question then is, how much of this wartime expansion will be permanent?

The export section of the industry expanded at the fastest rate but the present unlimited demand for Canadian meat cannot be expected to continue indefinitely. In the future, foreign demand will be a very uncertain and fluctuating quantity due to the influence of such factors as government policy and subsidization, trade agreements, and the European consumer's preference in meat products. Canada's heaviest purchaser, the United Kingdom, has recently agreed to take 120,000,000 lbs. of Canadian beef annually, but our bacon market there is not assured after 1946. In the long term, Canada will be competing with Denmark, Argentina, and the United States, to mention only three countries, for the British market. A second key customer, U.M.R.R.A., will cease European operations this year. The United States, to whom Canada exported some 200,000 head of livestock annually, will provide a larger market for the farmer, but after the present meat shortages subside, the meat packer will have to sell his product in the world market under highly competitive conditions. In view of this, a drop in the volume of Canada's meat exports seems probable.

While exports rose at a faster rate, the absolute value of the increase in domestic production during the war was greater than that of exports. Per capita consumption went up 38 per cent and gross value of production rose 147 per cent from 1939 to 1944. The two main reasons for this were the presence of a high percentage of the population in the armed forces and the abnormal level of consumer purchasing power. Shortages of meat, however, prevented consumption from reaching its maximum. Weighing all factors, it seems that with the improvement in supply, domestic consumption will stay at a high level.

Continued prosperity could do much to prevent any large decrease in sales and, on the whole, the drop in domestic demand should be proportionately much smaller than that of exports.

To sum up, the natural rate of growth in the meat products industry will keep the level of employment and production well above pre-war, but still considerably below the wartime peak. Exports may drop as much as 25 per cent, but domestic consumption, which takes the bulk of the meat packers production, should remain steady. As employment does not vary in direct proportion to production changes, the repercussions on the industry's labour force will be the less severe.

Primary Iron and Steel

Three month strike ended—The strike of upwards of 10,000 workers in the three largest of Canada's primary iron and steel plants which began on July 14 was finally settled on October 5. Accompanied by widespread publicity, this strike was the key to all wage-price disputes and its settlement was quickly followed by similar agreements in the rubber, electrical apparatus, and soda ash industries. In the case of iron and steel it was estimated that at least a month would be required before all the workers got back to their jobs and normal production was resumed.

The final settlement called for a thirteen cent-an-hour pay raise, ten cents of which is to be retroactive to April 1, 1946. Other points in question were referred to T.H. Rahilly, the government mediator. In the case of the Dosco plant at Sydney, N.S., a federal subsidy will be granted to cover the wage increase, and perhaps also to eliminate the five cent wage differential at present existing between this plant and the other two. The question of price increases or producer subsidies to offset this ten million dollar wage boost seems likely to come up in the near future and in this connection the subsidy to Dosco to provide for this latest pay increase seems to indicate that government policy is to keep the price of steel down to its present level to avoid a general rise in prices.

Employment down 25 per cent—With the three largest plants strikebound, reported employment in this industry group (crude, rolled and forged iron and steel), took a drop of almost 10,000 from the end of July on. The latest official D.B.S. figure, at September 1, gives reported employment at 26,000 as compared to the 35,000 figure for July 1.

The trend that reported employment has taken since the beginning of the war is set forth in Table I. During the early thirties, conditions in this industry were very depressed and employment was at a low ebb. Rock bottom was reached in 1933 when reported employment sank to 4,900 but recovery gradually crept through the industry and by 1937 the total number employed had climbed up over the 18,000 mark. The expansion as a result of the war saw the work force almost double itself by the fall of 1943. From that time until the present strike, reported employment has hovered around the 30,000 to 35,000 level.

Table II—Reported Employment in the Primary Iron and Steel Industry
1939 - 1946

(Source: Labour and Prices Statistics Branch, D.B.S.)

Date	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
January 1....	13,546	19,143	22,998	30,719	33,134	34,154	33,915	30,179
April 1.....	15,061	18,815	26,364	31,285	32,863	33,894	33,750	34,344
July 1.....	16,003	20,114	28,080	32,081	35,697	34,544	33,527	34,650
October 1....	13,384	22,215	29,065	32,000	35,860	33,650	31,512	25,995 ⁽¹⁾

(1) At September 1.

Earnings—In recent years, the weekly wage bill in this industry has been consistently above the million dollar mark. Due to the strike, however, aggregate payrolls dropped to \$920,000 at August 1, compared to the \$1,280,000 figure for July.

The average steel mill worker received \$36.45 per week at September 1, an increase of 2 per cent over August. The high in per capita weekly earnings during the war was reached in August, 1945, at \$38.62. This industry ranks in the first ten on the basis of earnings but is well behind the leading two, metallic mining and railways.

Production—Like employment, production until the strike, had stayed at the expanded wartime level since V-J day. The trends of production in the primary stage, pig iron, and the secondary stage, steel ingots, have been set out in Tables III and IV respectively. Steel ingots are made into semi-finished or end products by a rolling mill or forging process.

As this industry is most susceptible to the movements of the general business cycle, production has experienced wide fluctuations over the long term period. Employment has been subject to less violent changes, as it is a characteristic of the industry that a sizable work force is required to maintain even a small volume of production. Steel ingot production, for example, has ranged from a depression low of 10,000 tons to a wartime high of 260,000 tons, per month. No pig iron whatsoever was produced for several months in 1933, but from 1942 on monthly production has averaged around 150,000 tons. A comparison of the 1939 figures with those of 1945 in Tables III and IV affords an approximation of the expansion resulting from the needs of the armed forces.

Table III—Production of Pig Iron for Selected Years (Net tons of 2,000 lbs.)

(Source: Census of Industry and Merchandising Branch, D.B.S.)

Date	1939	1945	1946
January	64,579	155,969	143,685
February.....	46,293	149,487	143,171
March.....	45,610	165,817	157,936
April.....	51,304	156,070	142,240
May.....	64,676	155,574	159,000
June.....	59,142	159,046	129,890
July.....	66,737	150,387	64,472
August.....	73,830	139,812	46,494
September.....	73,868	135,227	45,078
October.....	96,049	140,693	—
November.....	98,361	134,651	—
December.....	105,974	135,225	—

Table IV—Production of Steel Ingots for Selected Years (Net tons of 2,000 lbs.)

(Source: Census of Industry and Merchandising Branch, D.B.S.)

Date	1939	1945	1946
January.....	83,857	253,674	236,607
February.....	82,920	235,602	226,273
March.....	102,691	261,524	240,589
April.....	106,829	260,144	239,463
May.....	131,021	254,629	251,697
June.....	116,427	244,792	208,296
July.....	120,747	229,379	130,574
August.....	133,038	214,930	82,707
September.....	134,664	189,640	71,363
October.....	161,057	198,135	—
November.....	156,387	200,932	—
December.....	160,418	212,775	—

Current and short term employment prospects—A Department of Labour survey of 14 plants employing over 12,000 workers indicates that 25 per cent more workers will be needed in this industry by the end of 1946. From that time until April, 1947, employment is expected to remain stable. At October 31, there were 454 unfilled vacancies reported to local employment offices.

Since iron and steel are basic industrial materials, the demand for these products will depend on the general level of economic activity. Production will be substantially above normal for several years because of the heavy backlog of demand for construction materials, machinery, automobiles, refrigerators, washing machines and hundreds of other items using these materials. Employment therefore should stay above the 25,000 mark but earnings, which have been augmented by overtime pay, may be cut.

Construction and Maintenance

Employment nearing seasonal peak—At September 1, 1946, employment in the Canadian construction and maintenance industry (railway, highway, and building) was continuing on the upward trend which it began in April. Normally, the seasonal peak in this industry is reached in the early fall, but with the present urgency of demand and with favourable weather conditions employment may not start to drop until some time in November.

An estimate of the actual number employed in the construction industry has recently been released by the quarterly Labour Force Survey of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Using a sampling technique, this report placed the number of construction workers in Canada at 267,000 at August 31, compared to the June 1 estimate of 241,000 and February 23 estimate of 154,000. As can be seen, these figures are considerably higher than the series used in the accompanying chart on construction and maintenance employment, as the latter, from the Employment and Payrolls Branch of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, have not complete coverage of the industry.

Nationwide shortages persist—Reports from all five regional National Employment Service offices, which are in close touch with construction activity in their respective areas, indicate that there had been no appreciable improvement in the material supply situation to the end of October. In addition, scarcities of fully qualified tradesmen are delaying projects in some areas.

These shortages have received such extensive publicity this year that they have tended to distort the true construction picture. Actually, a fairly high level of activity has been carried on, in spite of shortages, but demand has so far outrun supply that immediate satisfaction of all building wants is impossible. Reported employment, a good indicator of construction progress, has averaged 20 per cent above 1945. Building permits, while they do not show the volume of work completed, had been issued for 36,000 housing units up to September 1, compared to 21,000 in the first nine months of 1945. Unfortunately, however, residential contractors have been losing out in the race for building supplies and "non-essential" construction has been proceeding at a more rapid pace than housing.

Labour market active—During the month of September, there was a substantial movement of workers through the National Employment Service offices. In the four week period ending September 26, 10,700 applicants were placed by this service. In the same period there were 16,400 separations from the industry and 11,500 were hired directly by employers. These figures reflect the high rate of turnover and heavy movement of workers within the industry which has characterized construction employment this year. Due in part to the extreme seasonality of the work, construction workers, in proportion to their numbers, have been more prone to make use of the National Employment Service than those of most other industries. This active construction labour market has been going on since late spring and reached its peak during July.

Contracts awarded decline—In anticipation of the coming seasonal slowdown, the value of "contracts awarded" was slightly lower during September. The \$44.8 million total in that month was a decline of \$5.9 million from the August total but \$2.8 million above the figure for the same month in 1945. Quebec again had the highest provincial total with contracts amounting to \$20.4 million, while Ontario and the western provinces were down from the same period last year. A significant shift in the nature of construction work is indicated in the decline in residential construction, down \$6 million from September 1945, while business and industrial construction registered increases. The nine-month total of "contracts awarded" in 1946 was over \$505 million, almost \$200 million more than the 1945 total for the same period.

Table V—Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants in the Canadian Construction Industry at October 17, 1946.

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour)

Occupation	Unfilled Vacancies	Unplaced Applicants
Bricklayers.....	901	96
Carpenters.....	3,258	1,943
Cement Finishers.....	84	40
Painters.....	278	1,142
Plasterers.....	166	60
Plumbers and Pipefitters.....	360	657
Unskilled.....	4,227	1,852
Other.....	335	234
Total.....	9,609	6,024

(1)

Supply and Demand of Skilled Labour: Table V shows that, at October 17, there was a fifty per cent excess of vacancies over applicants in construction occupations listed with National Employment Service offices. Actually, openings in other general occupations, such as clerical, stenographical and bookkeeping work, which are not listed under the construction industry brought the total number of unfilled positions to over 11,000 at that date. More than 7,500 of these vacancies are in Ontario and Quebec, with the demand being heaviest for carpenters and unskilled labourers.

The geographical and occupational distribution of all Canadian construction apprentices is given in Table VI. The normal length of the apprenticeship period is four years, but veterans with no experience who have taken the six-month Canadian Vocational Training course are usually enrolled in their third year of apprenticeship. Most of these men, then, will be qualifying as skilled construction tradesmen within the next year or two.

Considering the totals in Table VI in relation to the present number of unfilled vacancies shown in Table V, it appears that bricklaying, and to a lesser extent plastering, are the trades which are being generally overlooked by the trainees. By region, the Maritimes have the most adequate supply of skilled workers forthcoming with the greatest potential scarcity looming in Quebec.

(1) For a more detailed discussion of this subject see the Canadian Labour Market, April 1, 1946.

Table VI--Enrolment in the Building Trades
Canadian Vocational Training Schools and Apprenticeship Training
At September 30, 1946

(Source-Vocational Training Branch Dept. of Labour)

Trade	Maritimes		Quebec		Ontario		Prairies		B.C.		Total		
	(1) CVT	(2) A.T.	CVT	A.T.	CVT	A.T.	CVT	A.T.	CVT	A.T.	CVT	A.T.	Total
Carpentry	238	54	182	128	439	438	83	164	120	101	1,062	885	1,947
Bricklaying	106	11	70	19	249	106	10	12	-	12	435	160	595
Painting & Decorating	28	16	26	26	132	210	22	103	12	57	220	412	632
Plastering	-	2	12	4	36	52	2	41	-	12	50	111	161
Plumbing & Steamfitting	140	86	21	187	346	409	21	166	9	64	537	912	1,449
Sheet Metal	13	10	19	26	105	156	26	119	25	31	188	342	530
Electricians	226	34	270	155	238	397	115	214	104	76	953	876	1,829
All Trades	751	213	600	545	1,545	1,768	279	819	279	819	3,445	3,698	7,143

(1) Canadian Vocational Training

(2) Apprenticeship Training

P A R T I I I

A R E A A N A L Y S I S

Section 1: - REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following regional analysis deals with the current labour market situation in each of the five regions, Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies and Pacific. Each month a special study of the economic background, war-time development and past-war problems of one region has been made. In this issue, the study of the Pacific region forms the last of this series.

Table I—Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants at October 31, by Region

(Source: Advance Report on Labour Demand and Supply. Research & Statistics Br.)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies				Unplaced Applicants			
	Male	Female	Total	%	Male	Female	Total	%
Maritime	5,000	2,000	7,000	5.3	17,000	2,000	19,000	14.2
Quebec	35,000	15,000	50,000	37.5	24,000	9,000	33,000	24.6
Ontario	30,000	18,000	48,000	36.1	31,000	12,000	43,000	32.1
Prairie	17,000	4,000	21,000	15.8	16,000	5,000	21,000	15.7
Pacific	5,000	2,000	7,000	5.2	14,000	4,000	18,000	13.4
Canada	92,000	41,000	133,000	100.0	102,000	32,000	134,000	100.0

Maritime Region

The Maritime labour market showed little strength throughout the summer in spite of the seasonal employment expansion in agriculture, fishing, transportation, and general construction. The region now has a smaller percentage of unfilled vacancies, and a greater percentage of unplaced applicants in Canada than it had at the beginning of May.

Darker outlook with end of seasonal employment—The completion of seasonal employment pushes the unemployment problem to the fore. It is noted that a number of those who have been harvesting have made arrangements with the growers and farmers with whom they have worked to stay on for winter employment. In other cases, men from urban centres have been hired by the farmers for the winter's woods operations. An additional number of the

unemployed, or seasonally employed, will be absorbed by the logging industry, which expects to use 20,000 men in the 1946-47 season. However, 95 per cent of these must be experienced woodsmen. In construction the acute shortage of building materials, together with the nearness of winter, has caused many prospective builders to cancel their projects temporarily. Nor is manufacturing likely to be a reception industry for labour. Employment has not increased to any extent in the past few months and no expansion is anticipated for the winter. The end of the steel strike in Sydney has not yet had any effect on improving conditions in heavy industry. The labour demand here, except for a few highly skilled men, is almost non-existent. It would seem that there are few prospects of any alleviation in the general darkness of the outlook this winter.

Quebec Region

Sharp employment upswing due to logging industry—The Quebec labour picture has brightened steadily for the past few months. Until September the number of vacancies reported remained fairly constant, while the number of applicants decreased. The number of vacancies then shot up, while the number of applicants continued to decline, though seemingly at a slower rate. As at June 27, Quebec had 30.1 per cent of the vacancies in Canada and 27.6 per cent of the unplaced applicants. The comparable figures for the end of October were 37.5 per cent and 24.6 per cent, respectively. Vacancies now have outnumbered applicants.

What is the cause of this upsurge? The increase in orders for labour is attributable, almost entirely, to the seasonal expansion in the logging industry's demand for labour. Of 35,000 vacancies for male labour, 21,000 are for loggers. The early harvesting of farm crops has released thousands of men for the woods and the number of men on the job has been mounting daily.

Strike settlements should bring stepped-up industrial activity—However, if we neglect the seasonal expansion of this one industry, job opportunities have not increased greatly. The employment scene is thus not as promising as would appear on the surface. Vacancies in manufacturing have remained on a fairly constant level, around 15,000, since the beginning of August and material shortages still impede expanding production in many industries. The settlement of various strikes during the month should contribute much to increased industrial activity, but it will be some time before labour demand responds noticeably.

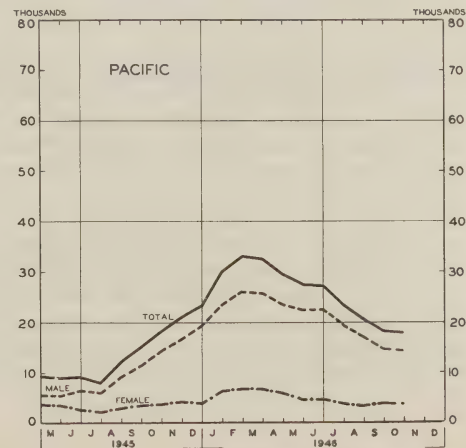
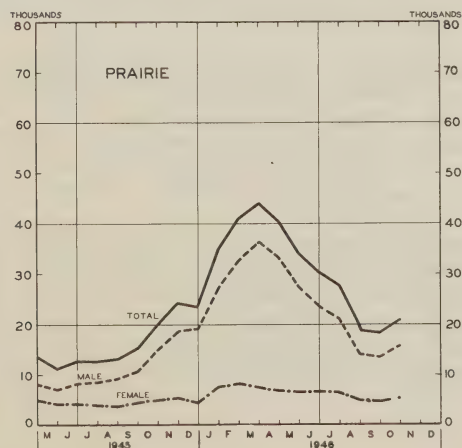
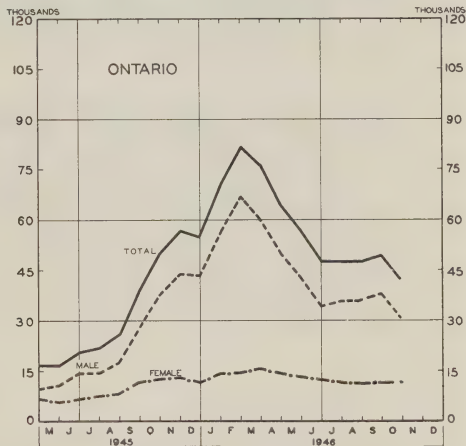
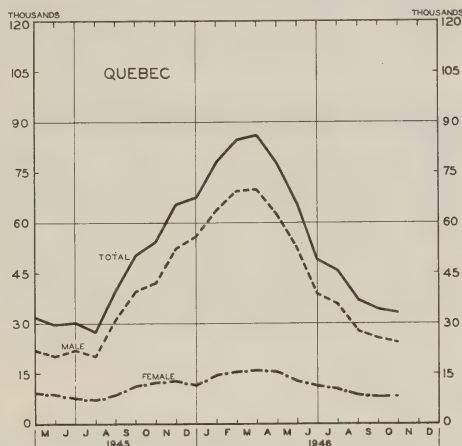
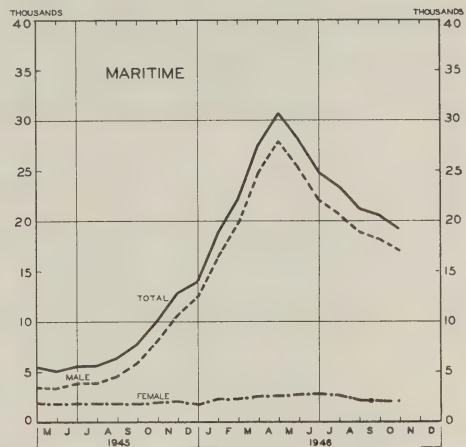
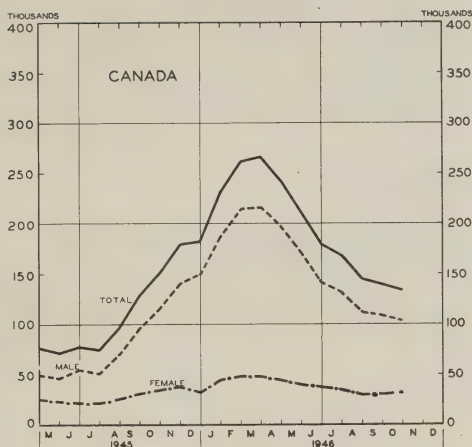
Ontario Region

Brightest regional employment picture—Ontario presents the most favourable employment situation of any region in Canada. October saw the end of many of the strikes which have held back manufacturing during the summer. In the steel, rubber, chemicals, and motor vehicles industries workers have returned to work. The settlement of these labour disputes will act as an encouragement for industrial expansion. However, it is likely that there will be a lag in activity as in many cases disuse has rendered equipment inoperative and stocks are exhausted. This trough-like period may last well into the next month. Even then expansion of employment will be hampered by the few skilled workers available. Foundry help heads the list of labour shortages. In areas not affected by strikes, forge machine operators, boilermakers, blacksmiths, and sheet metal workers are some of the many types of tradesmen needed. Those

REGIONAL UNPLACED APPLICANTS

AS REPORTED BY THE

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



industries producing consumer goods, which have not felt the effects of strikes so much as the producer goods industries, in general suffer a lack of unskilled, as well as skilled labour. In all industrial centres there is a steady demand for unskilled factory workers. The textile mills, food processing plants, biscuit and candy firms are among those seeking labour.

Prairie Region

Agricultural labour demand tapers off—Labour demand has slackened in the Prairie region as agricultural activity subsides. The prospects of any major change in the demand for labour in any industry other than logging are few. The number of unfilled vacancies in logging has been mounting slowly and should swell noticeably now that labour unrest in the Thunder Bay area has died down. News of the disturbance has affected placements to a certain extent in other districts, applicants probably fearing that the strike would spread. However, gold mines in the Beardmore-Long Lac district have benefited in that striking wood workers have sought employment as unskilled workers. Only experienced miners are required here at present. It is doubtful, though, if the need for unskilled labour has been met more than temporarily.

Food processing industries back to normal—Food processing industries which were somewhat hampered by the farmers' strike have returned to normal production. Labour requirements have been few, except in meat packing. Plants in Edmonton are working two, and in some cases three shifts. The textile industry in the region is still experiencing the usual shortage of labour. In Winnipeg the industry is making a substantial effort to obtain young women by revising rates of pay. Material shortages are the cause of less than full production in other industries. Sash and door factories, foundries, vehicle manufacturers are a few of the industries handicapped in such a way.

Pacific Region

Geography dictates the economy of the Pacific region. Industry and finance are moulded by the physical nature of this mountainous area.

Rich natural resources - but inaccessibility the problem of the interior Concentrations of rich natural resources, separated by great stretches of barren land, characterize the region. Mountain ranges guard the mineral and forest resources of the interior, often inaccessible except where costly transportation projects are feasible. On the coast or in the Fraser River Valley, however, access is no problem.

A primary economy dependent on foreign markets—The income of the region comes from a few specialized resources which sell in external markets. These support a high standard of living and services despite the rigid costs involved in their exploitation. As in all economies based on primary resources the income fluctuates widely with foreign markets, shipping rates and the hazardous mining industry, which are the basic props of the industrial structure.

Less independence—Large-scale operations require large corporations—heavy capitalization is needed for the most successful attack upon the primary resources. Taxable income is thus more concentrated than in other regions. Engineering construction also employs more workers than in average provinces. More of the labour force are therefore wage-earners, and there is less self-sufficiency. This intensifies the problem of unemployment in times of retrenchment.

Wasting assets - the basis of the economy—One of the fundamental contributions to the future welfare of the region is an adequate program of conservation and research. The economy is based on wasting assets and their conservation is of major importance, although in times of reduced income such a program is often sacrificed to fixed governmental expenditures.

Rapid expansion program after World War I—Before World War I the Pacific region was closely dependent upon the transcontinental economy and upon national transportation and development projects. Post-war conditions lessened its dependence. In the following two decades, a great capital program with rapid expansion took place. The Panama Canal and lower shipping costs for B.C.'s bulky exports brought world markets closer. The development of the lumber industry created a healthy export trade in lumber and newsprint. Waterpower and improved electro-metallurgical techniques opened up the huge and profitable base metal deposits (in 1930, B.C. produced one-tenth of the total world output of lead and zinc). The wonderful scenery and climate attracted a thriving tourist trade. Oriental markets developed strong trading connections.

Vancouver emerged an important metropolitan market—Commercial interests sprouted rapidly. Vancouver became a husky competitor for the export trade of the Prairie provinces, and as railway freight rates fell, her exporting area widened to include finally all of Alberta and almost half of Saskatchewan. The city rapidly emerged as an important metropolitan market, encouraging the growth of secondary and service industries as its hinterland expanded. Between 1921 and 1931 its population rose by more than 50 per cent, and it became the third largest metropolitan centre in Canada.

Hard-hit by depression—The depression knocked the bottom out of this rapidly-built structure. U.S. lumber markets closed, base metal demand and prices collapsed, new construction disappeared. However, every other primary exporting economy suffered similar reverses and the Pacific region retained the comparative advantage of low shipping rates. Imperial Preference and a trade agreement with the U.S. also buoyed up the economy. Despite the reverses of the depression, the region retained its recently-acquired position, remaining less dependent on national markets and policies than formerly. It looked abroad to external markets.

Market expansion after World War II followed by steep employment drop—The war brought tremendous expansion. In September 1939, there were 114,000 wage earners reported. In 1942 alone, wage earners increased by 40,000. The wartime peak of 189,000 occurred in September 1943, 66 per cent higher than pre-war employment—a greater gain than in all regions except the Maritimes. The post-war low occurred in March 1946, and marked a decline of 20 per cent from peak employment—a greater slump than in any province except Nova Scotia.

Wartime and post-war population influx—Wartime industrialization has left a host of problems in its wake. Attracted by booming expansion in the shipbuilding and aircraft industries, an influx of 90,000 persons had entered B.C. during the wartime inter-provincial population shifts. To further complicate matters, more than 61,000 veterans were discharged in the Pacific region in the eleven months following the end of the war. However, in the shipbuilding and aircraft industries and in smaller sub-contracting plants there are 40,000 fewer jobs than there were a year and a half ago. The Vancouver area, which alone contains nearly half of the population of the province, supports the bulk of the resulting unemployment.

Post-war set-back in manufacturing—Tremendous depletion in manufacturing is the current situation. The wartime gains were not of a permanent character for the most part, as most were in the shipbuilding and aircraft industries, developed under pressure. The wood products industry, however, is solidly founded on increased demand. Iron products manufacturing related to fishing, logging and other primary activity will also maintain its expansion, as these primary industries are developing in extent and in mechanization. Only the Trail area has maintained its wartime advance—there the decline in employment in lead and zinc smelting has been taken up by chemical expansion.

Employment peak passed in October—The seasonal upswing in mining, logging, fishing and construction has stimulated general activity, but the month of October has seen the passing of the year's employment peak. The number of vacancies has begun to shrink. With the exception of the logging industry, labour demand and supply is becoming stable and turnover is declining. The release of workers as packing houses and food processing plants close for the season contributes to an increased labour supply.

Training program set up to alleviate shortage of skilled men in primary industry—Lack of key skilled men in the primary industries is holding up employment for many workers. The absence of job training in such industries prior to the war accounts for this predicament. Training plans are being rushed in all fields; the smashing of this bottleneck will create a substantial employment impetus.

Tight labour supply situation in logging industry—The lack of suitable labour is most serious in the logging industry. There are fewer men in the camps than there were in 1939, despite the fact that the demand for logs and lumber is estimated to be three times what it was in 1939. The employers had hoped that the granting of higher wages would attract a larger number of men to the industry, but this has not proved to be the case. The majority of operators are willing to take unskilled men in various occupations, but the need for key men remains the predominating factor. The annual influx of workers from the Prairies seeking off-season employment in B.C. should meet a portion of the demand for skilled labour. Many of the men have worked previous winters in logging camps and should relieve a little the acuteness of the labour situation existing in logging in many districts.

Outlook optimistic with absorption of displaced war workers—The long-run outlook for the region is bright, once present displaced war workers are re-absorbed into the primary economy. The two chief obstacles are the re-training involved, and the unwillingness of the labour force to move out

of the populated south-western corner of the province to the location of job opportunities in sparsely settled areas. Analysis of the unemployed shows that older men lack training or are physically unfit, many younger men are unwilling to postpone their re-establishment in order to learn a trade, while women are reluctant to accept prosaic work in laundries, restaurants and hospitals after their well-paid wartime jobs. Still, the resiliency of the regional industrial structure is shown in that current unplaced applicants total only 18,000, despite the 90,000 population influx and the entry of over 61,000 ex-servicemen into the region.

Wartime boom strong impetus to future manufacturing expansion--Although the war manufacturing boom has collapsed for the most part, still it did stimulate the development of secondary industries which are needed for the greater maturity of the primary economy. Raw materials will still be the chief exports and the income will therefore tend to fluctuate. However, the population gains of the war years, the expanding outlets in the Orient, the exploitation of the northwest, all point to a great increase in demand. Producers in the Pacific region are in a choice position in regard to these growing markets, and they will undoubtedly pounce upon their advantage. The long-run outlook for the region is thus very favourable.

Section 2:—A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

A Key to the Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in thirty-eight selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in the area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the seriousness of unemployment in each by means of the ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed. This ratio, as we have stated previously, is a crude measure evaluating short-term relative levels of unemployment.

The total labour force figure, including as it does, wage and salary workers, employers, self-employed, and unpaid family workers would be preferable as a ratio base to wage and salary workers employed. It would give a truer statement of the movement from employed status to unemployed status without reflecting movements not resulting in unemployment (e.g. a salary or a wage worker becoming self-employed). However, until labour force figures are available, the ratio base will be an estimate of the number of wage and salary workers employed in the area.

Unplaced applicants are workers who are seeking jobs through registration with the employment service. The figure of unplaced applicants will underestimate the number unemployed by the number of workers who seek work independently of the employment service. However, since it is probable that the unemployed will register with the local employment office when jobs are difficult to find and will find work on their own initiative, to a certain extent, without registering when jobs are plentiful, the unemployment ratio may understate unemployment in good times while giving a fairly accurate picture in bad times, especially in work covered by unemployment insurance.

After we have reached a measure of the unemployment in an area we must have some idea as to the meaning of the measure. In a dynamic economy, at any one moment there will always be some workers who are not employed. Some will be changing jobs, some will have just left school and not yet found a place in the labour force, some in seasonal occupations will work only part of the year. We can classify levels of unemployment by a comparison with past levels, and designate the labour situation in the different areas by the group rating under which they come, as follows:

Group I - Areas in which over 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties".

Group II - Areas in which between 150 and 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III - Areas in which 50 to 150 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV - Areas in which under 50 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Slight, that is, in general it is that which would exist under conditions of full employment according to the experience of the years 1943 and 1944.

On the other hand we may desire more information than whether unemployment in an area is acute, serious, moderate or slight. The area tables present additional material relevant to the current labour demand and supply picture.

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Jobs available during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but should indicate the trend of labour demand in comparison with figures for previous periods.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer to the employment service.

"Unplaced applicants", at any one date, includes "unconfirmed referrals" and "unreferred applicants". The term "unconfirmed referrals" covers those workers who are referred to jobs, but whose acceptance or rejection has not been confirmed. "Unreferred applicants" are those workers who are not, at the moment, referred to any job. As we said above, the number of unplaced applicants will understate the number of unemployed by the number of workers who seek work independently of the employment service. It should, in comparison with figures for previous periods, indicate the trend of labour supply. Those workers seeking part time work, or who are working and also seeking subsidiary employment or a change of employment through the employment service are not included under the term "applicants".

A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT NOVEMBER 1, 1946

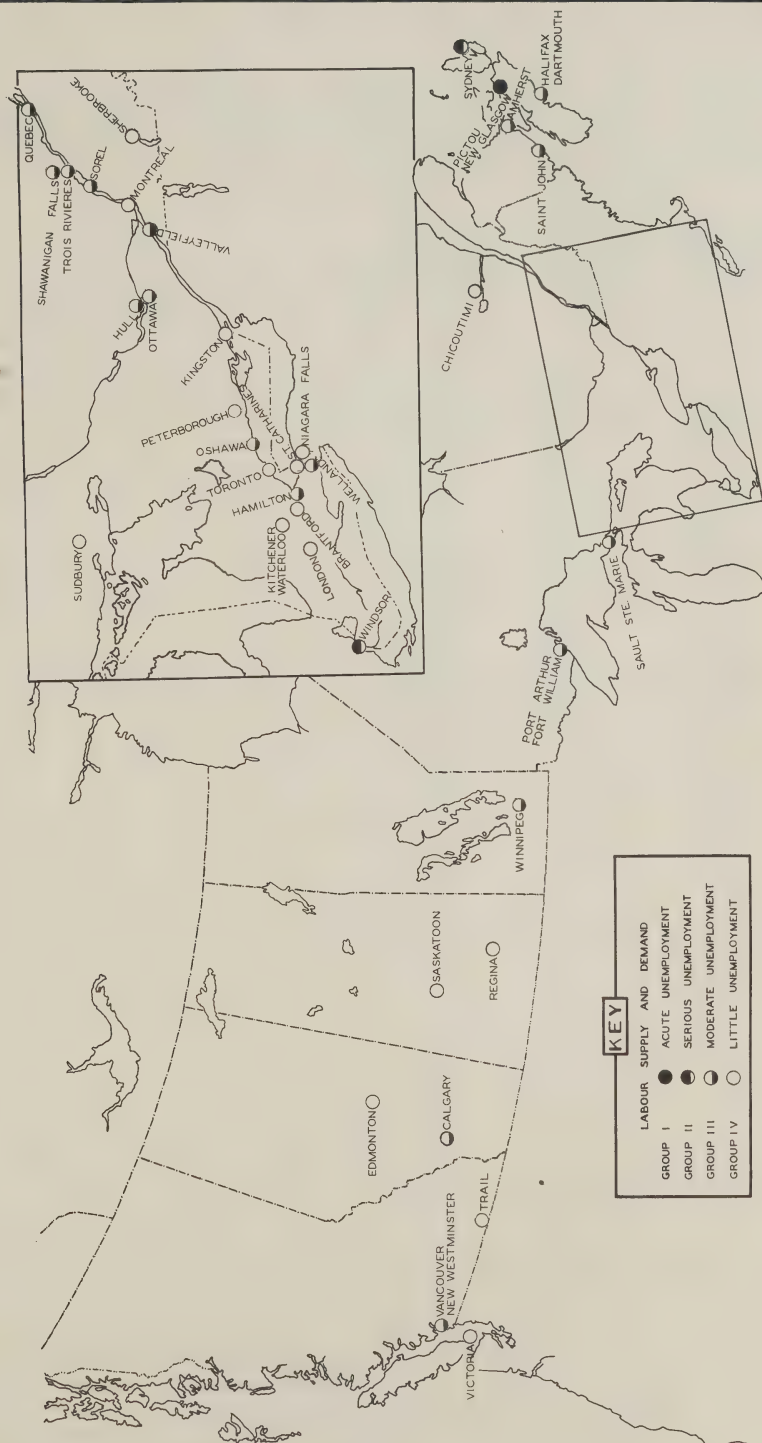


Table I—Index to Areas Analyzed in this Section, with Comparable Ratings for Two Selected Previous Dates

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		Aug. 29, 1946	Sept. 26, 1946	Oct. 31 1946
79	New Glasgow & Pictou.....	I	I	I
79	Sydney (a).....	II	II	II
97	Windsor.....	II	II	II
93	Sault Ste Marie.....	III	III	III
85	Valleyfield.....	I	I	III
83	Quebec (b).....	III	III	III
81	Hull.....	III	III	III
95	Welland.....	III	III	III
91	Oshawa.....	II	II	III
79	Saint John.....	III	III	III
77	Amherst.....	III	III	III
83	Shawinigan Falls.....	III	III	III
87	Hamilton.....	III	III	III
85	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
101	Vancouver (c).....	III	III	III
87	Fort William & Port Arthur.....	III	III	III
77	Halifax.....	III	III	III
85	Sorel.....	III	III	III
99	Calgary (d).....	III	IV	III
91	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
97	Winnipeg.....	III	IV	III
81	Chicoutimi.....	III	III	IV
93	St. Catharines.....	IV	IV	IV
101	Trail.....	IV	IV	IV
95	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	IV
99	Edmonton.....	IV	IV	IV
99	Saskatoon.....	IV	IV	IV
89	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
97	Regina.....	IV	IV	IV
95	Toronto (e).....	IV	IV	IV
81	Montreal (f).....	IV	IV	IV
89	London.....	IV	IV	IV
91	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV
87	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
93	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
83	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
89	Kitchener-Waterloo.....	IV	IV	IV

(a) Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.

(b) Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

(c) Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

(d) Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

(e) Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

(f) Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles, St. Paul l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

Item	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)	47	50	47	91	126	76	65	70	16
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	139,654	119,469	165,147	17	33	58	1,226	1,429	3,514
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	178,246	211,149	-	53	182	-	1,808	3,440
3. Jobs available during month	-	297,715	376,296	-	86	240	-	3,237	6,954
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	72,431	125,833	-	57	139	-	1,062	1,479
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	104,295	60,676	-	198	39	-	1,090	1,175
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	133,408	139,654	156,295	35	17	71	1,232	1,226	3,227
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	142,200	144,619	97,611	390	414	345	2,957	2,986	689
% female	21.8	21.2	25.9	25.9	22.9	45.2	14.6	13.1	19.9
% veterans	32.5	34.2	19.4	51.8	51.4	22.0	41.8	40.0	49.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more ..	21.8	23.2	5.7	46.9	45.2	-	20.3	23.2	-
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.	129,703	133,709	63,134	367	397	376	2,813	2,853	287
% under 20 years	10.1	10.5	-	5.4	7.8	-	19.8	23.6	-
% 20 - 45 "	62.1	61.7	-	74.4	71.0	-	61.1	58.1	-
% 45 - 60 "	17.3	17.2	-	14.2	15.9	-	13.5	13.0	-
% over 60 "	10.5	10.6	-	6.0	5.3	-	5.6	5.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	149,554	236,712	-	194	184	-	2,486	2,336
3. Total workers available in month	-	294,173	334,323	-	608	529	-	5,472	3,025
% referred	-	38.2	50.6	-	17.9	44.8	-	33.6	79.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	134,010	142,200	129,427	300	390	311	2,750	2,957	756
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month .	2,860	2,846	2,742	3,300	3,100	4,100	42,600	42,100	45,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	32.73	32.06	-	-	-	-	29.22	29.42
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	27,493	20,038	-	11	12	-	242	238

Note:—Figures for Canada re wage and salary workers are in thousands.

x Figures subject to revision.

Area Studies

The following individual studies of thirty-nine selected local areas present aspects of the current situation which are not reflected in the statistical material.

Amherst

With the exception of a number of men who were sent to Prince Edward Island to pick potatoes, demand for farm labour locally is nil. Woods operators are awaiting the signing of contracts before signifying labour needs. The light demand for woodsmen so far has been met easily. Employment in the Canadian Car and Foundry Company and the Robb Engineering Works is at an extremely low level; it is not expected that the settlement of the steel strike will affect local output for some time yet. The textile industry, involving Maritime Pant Manufacturing and Oxford Woollen Mills, still is operating steadily. The construction industry has done much to maintain employment in this area despite the employment slump in the secondary iron and steel plants. Construction on the new salt refining plant for Maritime Industries is nearing completion and this company expects to commence operations in the middle of December. Other construction work is progressing according to schedule.

Halifax

Agricultural requirements are limited to men who are being sent to Prince Edward Island for potato picking, and Annapolis Valley for apple picking. The danger of a strike among Nova Scotia fishermen has been averted. Although the fishing season peak is over, there still is a large demand for skilled workers for fish processing plants. Shipbuilding is very active, and at the moment labour requirements are reported for acetylene and electric welders, and marine electricians. There is sufficient unskilled labour to supply shipbuilding needs. About 300 men will be required for the demolition of the Debert army camp. The slump in shipping activity during the summer now shows definite signs of abating, and prospects are for a very busy winter season. Now that the steel strike is settled, once the supply situation clears up there is sufficient construction work to employ many more skilled and unskilled workers. At the moment there is a serious shortage of journeymen bricklayers. The textile and confectionery industries require many female workers.

Item	New Glasgow and Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed) ...	388	418	163	212	269	68	93	94	42
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	47	60	142	366	402	866	655	728	1,046
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	456	846	-	1,240	1,084	-	834	1,710
3. Vacs. available during month	-	516	988	-	1,642	1,950	-	1,562	2,756
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	527	768	-	1,218	1,054	-	478	1,281
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	132	40	-	222	47	-	787	318
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	58	47	161	252	366	797	514	655	1,083
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	2,634	2,553	1,078	4,235	4,211	1,076	2,415	2,206	701
% female	8.1	8.3	27.9	12.3	12.2	31.7	6.3	6.3	24.5
% veterans	51.9	53.3	11.6	52.1	55.2	19.7	50.5	51.8	27.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	49.1	49.0	4.3	46.4	49.5	10.9	37.7	39.2	5.0
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	2,628	2,541	1,036	4,164	4,087	890	2,290	2,147	383
% under 20 years	5.8	7.0	-	15.9	17.5	-	11.0	13.6	-
% 20 - 45 "	70.6	71.1	-	72.4	71.1	-	65.6	61.7	-
% 45 - 60 "	14.7	13.5	-	7.4	7.9	-	15.5	17.1	-
% over 60 "	8.9	8.4	-	4.3	3.5	-	7.9	7.6	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	979	1,226	-	1,707	1,720	-	1,322	2,332
3. Total workers available in month	-	3,532	2,304	-	5,918	2,796	-	3,528	3,033
% referred	-	22.0	36.9	-	16.4	48.6	-	25.9	58.9
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	2,486	2,634	1,353	3,694	4,235	1,308	2,440	2,415	1,049
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	6,400	6,300	8,300	17,400	16,300	19,200	26,100	25,800	24,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28.78	29.17
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	-	25	-	119	118	-	42	66
x Figures subject to revision.									

New Glasgow - Pictou

As in other districts in the maritimes, there is no shortage of farm help. Fish plants are operating at capacity with no need for additional workers. Resumed operation of the basic steel industry in this area has not helped production in the iron and steel industry as yet. With the exception of the Maritime Steel and Foundry Company, which will take on fifty to one hundred men in their structural steel division, nearly all other manufacturing, principally iron and steel, is seriously curbed by the steel shortage. Pictou Foundry and Machine Company Limited report that unless new orders and steel are received in the immediate future, 100 men will have to be laid-off. There is no shortage of construction labour, principally because of the critical material situation. While coal mines are operating at capacity, no help is required. There are also no vacancies in wholesale and retail trade fields. Female requirements locally are relatively light although vacancies are available in the service industry and the demand for first class stenographers is high. Any woman who wishes to do so can secure work in Annapolis Valley apple processing factories.

Sydney

Although demand for local farm labour is very light, approximately 600 potato pickers have been sent to Prince Edward Island recently and an additional 45 men to Annapolis Valley for apple picking. Fishermen are preparing for the fall season. At the moment, fish catches are high, creating a substantial demand for experienced fish cutters who are, however, in short supply. Local mines, at present working steadily, still require 150 first class miners, a demand which will be partially filled when the first class of apprentices graduates. It will be at least a month before work is available for all the striking steel workers; 3,000 steel workers are still drawing benefits. The shortage of building materials is still acute. Local contractors say that there is sufficient prospective construction work to last for at least five years. They also state that if materials were available the ensuing activity would provide employment for hundreds of workers.

Saint John

The potato harvest is drawing to a close and there will probably be no further demand for pickers. Many boats are engaged in a particularly large sardine run. Woods operators expect to increase their cut this winter, but at the moment are hiring only experienced men. Lack of materials is retarding nearly all manufacturing. Bakeries, fertilizer plants, sash and door factories, and nail manufacturing are all feeling the pinch. Supplies for construction firms are increasing sufficiently to enable crews to engage a few extra men. However, most construction firms require first class carpenters and bricklayers. Turnover among women employees is very high in all types of work; most employers say that on an average when about five female workers are hired from available applicants, two may stay a few days, one a week, and the remaining two about a month.

Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed) ...	49	56	95	108	115	55	24	28	62
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	595	816	677	600	240	396	20,696	19,486	37,565
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	480	2,075	-	686	947	-	15,513	24,300
3. Jobs available during month	-	1,296	2,752	-	926	1,343	-	34,981	61,865
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	125	989	-	150	558	-	6,154	10,559
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	415	136	-	584	165	-	17,333	13,484
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	2,104	595	1,126	425	600	592	19,400	20,696	24,335
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	407	377	829	1,090	1,464	537	13,421	13,513	21,208
% female	39.1	32.9	10.5	22.8	16.1	10.6	16.1	12.6	12.5
% veterans	10.3	13.0	5.7	35.5	32.9	11.7	21.9	21.6	15.8
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	6.9	6.9	2.8	32.0	29.0	1.9	12.9	8.6	3.3
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	370	326	601	873	1,416	351	11,340	12,239	9,480
% under 20 years	16.5	13.2	-	12.0	13.5	-	7.2	6.8	-
% 20 - 45 "	64.6	64.4	-	66.7	67.5	-	49.5	53.4	-
% 45 - 60 "	13.2	16.0	-	13.0	13.2	-	20.3	19.5	-
% over 60 "	5.7	6.4	-	8.3	5.8	-	23.0	20.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	385	1,431	-	548	1,073	-	20,023	38,167
3. Total workers available in month	-	762	2,260	-	2,012	1,610	-	33,536	59,375
% referred	-	26.4	54.1	-	18.8	41.1	-	33.8	21.8
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	327	407	759	1,032	1,090	565	11,829	13,421	28,705
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	6,700	7,300	8,000	9,600	9,500	10,300	483,900	481,000	460,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.32	32.00
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	110	48	-	40	58	-	4,635	2,655

x Figures subject to revision.

Chicoutimi

Pulpwood and lumber cutting operations have started, with approximately 3,000 men now employed in lumber camps throughout the Chicoutimi-Arvida area. An additional 3,000 men are needed to fill current requirements. Production at the Aluminum Company of Canada plant is being retarded by the lack of soda ash, and proposed plans to open additional potrooms this fall have been cancelled. A number of millwrights and plate workers are urgently required at the Aluminum Company; orders for these men have been placed with all employment offices in the Quebec region. Other manufacturing plants are operating at full capacity with only a light demand for workers reported to supplement normal labour turnover. The construction industry remains active despite building material shortages, with three major construction projects now underway. Work on the Quebec-Laterriere highway is progressing favourably. While orders for loggers form the bulk of male labour demand, carpenters and construction labourers are also in short supply. Requests for sales clerks and domestics predominate in the female labour field.

Hull

In general, employment conditions in the Hull area are favourable. An indication of the healthy industrial expansion taking place is the fact that during September more new business permits were issued than in any previous month in the past three years. Recruiting for the winter logging season has started, but the lack of skilled labour is holding up the placement of inexperienced men. From the recent increase in local building activity it would appear that material supplies in the construction industry are becoming available in greater quantities. Specialized construction labour is in great demand and it is almost impossible to obtain outside help because of the lack of living accommodation. Plans are underway for the construction of 200 Wartime Housing units in the city of Hull. A conservative estimate indicates that at the present time, 450 families are in need of homes.

Montreal

The steel strike settlement has not yet halted lay-offs in the Montreal area. Montreal Locomotive Works Limited, Dominion Ornament Manufacturers Registered, and Eastern Steel Products Limited report recent staff reductions due to material shortages. However it is expected that most firms affected by the steel strike will rehire laid-off workers shortly. Glass factories are preparing to resume full scale operations following the settlement of the Brunner-Mond strike. This in turn will have a buoyant effect on the food manufacturing industry, production in the latter having been seriously retarded by the shortage of glass containers. Retail sales continue at an abnormally high level, with qualified sales clerks in short supply. Conditions in the service industries are very unsettled; the persistent shortage of help and high rate of labour turnover make it difficult for laundries, dry cleaning establishments, restaurants, etc. to maintain adequate employment levels. The shortage of female labour in this city persists, and has become even more acute of late with the institution of a five day week in many industries.

Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	Oct. 1 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. 1 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. 1 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed) ...	114	117	115	82	84	84	13	13	30
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	2,155	1,612	2,228	296	27	91	378	382	607
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	3,124	5,734	-	643	517	-	645	1,065
3. Jobs available during month	-	4,736	7,962	-	670	608	-	1,027	1,672
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	1,111	3,008	-	327	413	-	382	715
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	2,193	1,728	-	250	298	-	694	564
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	1,853	2,155	3,251	185	296	144	326	378	610
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	7,855	8,393	6,782	887	970	742	264	271	490
% female	39.2	37.7	43.7	41.3	33.7	26.4	26.1	20.3	11.4
% veterans	20.2	21.3	9.9	12.7	13.1	2.7	22.3	32.8	18.8
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	14.4	16.6	6.3	11.8	12.8	1.2	15.5	24.7	6.5
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	7,581	8,181	6,756	887	969	656	207	228	401
% under 20 years	13.4	13.1	-	10.9	10.8	-	18.9	13.6	-
% 20 - 45 "	72.3	72.5	-	69.7	72.2	-	53.1	65.4	-
% 45 - 60 "	10.3	10.1	-	9.1	8.8	-	18.8	12.7	-
% over 60 "	4.0	4.3	-	10.3	8.2	-	9.2	8.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	4,180	7,730	-	550	776	-	632	1,374
3. Total workers available in month	-	12,573	14,512	-	1,520	1,518	-	903	1,864
% referred	-	16.8	28.8	-	23.9	27.2	-	66.2	53.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	7,733	7,855	8,671	881	887	945	259	264	552
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	68,100	67,200	75,600	10,800	10,600	11,300	19,900	19,800	18,400
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	28.13	28.22	-	-	-	-	28.04	25.70
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	321	428	-	50	34	-	338	104

x Figures subject to revision.

Quebec

Recruiting for woods operations has started, and from all indications labour requirements will be far greater this year than last. The Canadian National Railway continues to ask for track maintenance men, which the local office is able to supply without difficulty. The St. Lawrence Dry Dock and Marine Works Company Ltd. announced its intention of laying-off 300 workers shortly, at the rate of 75 men per week. Lack of steel supplies has necessitated the postponement of this firm's shipbuilding program until early spring. The situation in the construction industry remains much the same, with material shortages causing widespread unemployment among skilled construction workers and labourers. A more optimistic note is evident in the manufacturing field; a new dress manufacturing plant which recently opened up has taken on 50 sewing machine operators and 4 supervisors to date. With the tourist season over the labour situation in the service groups has eased. Domestic servants and hospital workers, however, still are almost unobtainable.

Shawinigan Falls

Unplaced male applicants show a steady decline because of a large shift of applicants into logging employment. Employment in the pulp and paper industry has remained stable for some time but other manufacturing, consisting mostly of chemicals and non-ferrous metals, has been hit by material shortages. The Aluminum Company of Canada will lay-off 100 employees on October 25, as several furnaces are being closed down and transferred to Arvida. Despite material shortages, evidence for expanded employment in the chemical industry is more than substantiated by the proposed three-million-dollar expansion program by Canadian Resins Limited, as soon as the material supply situation permits. Construction is very active; some 500 men will be employed by the Shawinigan Water and Power Company to complete the present job of installing two supplementary power units. Due to the nature of labour demand in this area there are few job opportunities for women.

Sherbrooke

Up to date efforts by the employment office to supply the textile industry with sufficient labour have been futile. The secondary iron and steel industry, although hard-hit by the steel strike, refrained from laying-off men, but continued to hold personnel until materials arrived. There is at present, a light demand for machine operators, and a heavy demand for foundry labourers. A great number of the woodsmen in this area are seeking work in the U.S.A., but so far no shortage of woodsmen has been reported. Construction projects are fairly large, creating a substantial demand for skilled and unskilled construction workers. Construction labourers are plentiful but carpenters are scarce. There is virtually no labour turnover in the retail and wholesale trade; any vacancies are promptly filled.

Item	Sorel			Three Rivers			Valleyfield		
	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)	64	71	194	76	82	68	115	273	90
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	140	50	214	265	140	414	384	28	842
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	396	452	-	817	1,150	-	737	756
3. Jobs available during month	-	446	666	-	957	1,564	-	765	1,598
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	94	389	-	347	883	-	363	495
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	177	7	-	802	77	-	157	130
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	99	140	151	169	265	369	357	384	713
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	560	616	525	3,115	2,974	2,240	791	1,124	688
% female	15.7	17.0	6.7	23.4	21.6	34.7	28.6	28.4	10.3
% veterans	8.9	10.4	0.0	15.2	15.4	7.3	11.1	14.1	7.3
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more ..	7.5	9.6	0.0	11.9	11.0	2.3	8.3	10.9	0.9
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	550	600	474	3,035	2,871	2,104	641	1,118	517
% under 20 years	8.9	8.9	-	30.7	20.0	-	11.3	13.0	-
% 20 - 45 "	65.3	68.0	-	55.4	65.6	-	65.2	58.5	-
% 45 - 60 "	16.0	14.3	-	11.0	10.6	-	16.5	20.7	-
% over 60 "	9.8	8.8	-	2.9	3.8	-	7.0	7.8	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	356	1,660	-	1,364	1,673	-	630	832
3. Total workers available in month	-	972	2,185	-	4,338	3,913	-	1,754	1,520
% referred	-	12.1	19.8	-	12.5	27.9	-	31.4	43.3
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	507	560	1,648	2,927	3,115	2,283	646	791	540
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	7,900	7,900	8,500	38,600	38,200	33,400	5,600	2,900	6,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	31.92	28.97	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	-	25	-	1,116	113	-	107	29

x Figures subject to revision.

Sorel

The only department still operating in Sorel Industries Limited is the foundry. Apparently, officials of this company are working to get contracts for other departments, but no new developments are expected for a few months. Marine Industries Limited, now the largest and most active employers of labour in this area, still are held back by lack of materials; contracts are very plentiful and many jobs would be available if the material situation permitted. Marine Industries Limited are general contractors for the new Canadian Celanese Limited plant in this city which will cost about \$1,500,000. They have also received a contract from the Royal Bank for a new building. Sorel Steel Foundries Limited are very active and at the moment have sufficient contracts lined up to operate normally for a year. Construction on the two hospitals being built in the area is progressing slowly.

Three Rivers

Employment conditions remained stable during the past month, with no lay-offs reported. The construction industry is fairly active although materials are extremely scarce at the present time. Dockyard activity showed a marked increase due to the last minute rush before the closing of the fall navigation season. By mid-December it is expected that there will be a great many stevedores, dockyard workers, etc. applying for jobs to carry them through the winter months. Two American firms, the National Lead Company Limited and the Mohawk Carpet Mills Limited are hiring Canadian labour through the Three Rivers employment office. To date 60 to 70 workers have been sent across the border, and an additional 40 men still are required. In general, labour turnover in local industry is light, due to the overall scarcity of jobs. At present, over 2,000 men are registered for employment while job openings barely pass the 100 mark. Unemployment is heaviest among unskilled labourers.

Valleyfield

Montreal Cottons Limited, Valleyfield's largest manufacturing plant, has been in operation since September 7, following a 3-month strike. As was expected, this firm is having difficulty in bringing its staff up to the pre-strike levels. Weavers and spinners are in particularly short supply. Canadian Schenley's Limited require 50 female unskilled workers, which the firm should have little difficulty in obtaining because of the favourable working conditions and good wages offered. War Assets Corporation Limited is stepping-up production and has placed an order for 170 women with the local employment office. Demand for farm helpers is light, due to the seasonal slackening-off in agricultural activity. A number of men who worked on farms during the summer months, now are taking jobs with local building contractors, thus easing the labour shortage in the construction industry. Although there is a strong demand for women, male unplaced applicants outnumber vacancies by approximately two to one, with unemployment heaviest among light labourers.

Item	Brantford			Ft. William & Pt. Arthur			Hamilton		
	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)	20	18	33	67	74	102	81	76	25
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	630	712	1,105	8,500	7,576	5,993	1,640	1,523	5,320
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	977	1,901	-	5,160	4,800	-	3,137	4,130
3. Jobs available during month	-	1,689	3,006	-	12,736	10,793	-	4,660	9,450
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	381	1,008	-	1,127	2,479	-	1,351	2,998
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	651	240	-	2,843	1,344	-	1,360	2,047
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	438	630	1,280	7,138	8,500	5,807	1,597	1,640	4,011
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	301	326	376	1,740	1,994	1,418	5,207	5,293	1,718
% female	37.9	41.1	47.6	42.1	39.5	31.2	22.4	25.5	11.3
% veterans	30.2	23.6	18.1	20.9	19.3	11.5	34.0	35.1	21.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more ..	15.0	15.6	2.9	9.5	7.4	2.1	19.9	19.4	11.5
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	279	300	212	1,527	1,797	715	4,963	5,043	1,379
% under 20 years	9.7	9.3	-	10.9	9.5	-	11.5	10.9	-
% 20 - 45 "	46.9	49.7	-	64.0	67.3	-	58.3	61.4	-
% 45 - 60 "	20.8	16.7	-	13.8	13.2	-	20.9	18.4	-
% over 60 "	22.6	24.3	-	11.3	10.0	-	9.3	9.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	543	1,517	-	1,742	3,940	-	3,832	7,425
3. Total workers available in month	-	869	1,893	-	3,736	5,358	-	9,125	9,143
% referred	-	55.4	81.0	-	34.0	54.0	-	32.9	62.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	335	301	489	1,678	1,740	2,450	5,531	5,207	2,031
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	16,600	16,300	14,700	25,100	23,500	24,100	68,000	68,800	80,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	35.63	34.07	-	32.77	32.55
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	26	46	-	132	200	-	445	373

x Figures subject to revision.

Brantford

With harvesting and canning operations practically completed, demand for farm help and casual factory labour now is on the wane. In general, the situation in the textile industry is favourable, and labour requirements are light. The Brantford Cordage Company Limited recently received an appreciable supply of South African seisal, enabling it to continue with its full production program. The Brantford Roofing Company Limited is expanding its plant, and will take on a number of new employees in the near future. In the heavy manufacturing field, the Canadian Car and Foundry Company Limited closed down temporarily due to lack of steel supplies. The Universal Cooler Co. Ltd. is operating with a minimum staff as it is unable to obtain sufficient quantities of copper, rubber and steel. Production in the large implement manufacturing plants has kept up surprisingly well, despite material shortages. In the male labour field, demand for skilled metalworkers (moulders, core makers, toolmakers, etc.) remains strong. Carpenters, plumbers, brush painters, plasterers, and construction labourers are also urgently required. There appears to be an acute shortage of waitresses, cooks, kitchen helpers and domestic servants. Retail stores are asking for single, experienced sales clerks, and, while many women desire this type of work, few possess the necessary qualifications.

Fort William - Port Arthur

Prior to the woodsmen's strike in the Thunder Bay district, shortages of woodsmen, miners, labourers, and skilled construction tradesmen were outstanding. Orders for at least 3,000 woodsmen were in clearance before the strike. Miners and muckers are required by nearly every mine in the Little Long Lac and Beardmore areas. The demand for labourers in the mines has been met temporarily by bushmen who now are taking employment while the strike is in progress. The construction industry requires many labourers, but again, bushmen are temporarily filling many of these positions. There is a definite shortage of shovellers in Lakehead grain elevators due to the heavy traffic through this shipping terminal. Established pulp and paper mills are fully staffed but the new mill at Marathon is nearing completion and still requires experienced millhands. Canadian Car and Foundry Company is working full time, but material shortages have caused a cut-down staff.

Hamilton

During October the employment situation in Hamilton changed radically. On October 5, the Steel Company of Canada strike terminated, and employees of the strikebound Frost Steel and Wire Company Limited plant returned to work. October 19 saw the end of the four-month-old industrial dispute at Firestone Tire and Rubber Company of Canada, and on October 24 the Canadian Westinghouse strike was settled. Termination of the latter dispute brought to 9,000 the number of Hamilton strikers who have returned to their jobs this month. The only workers striking in this city at present are some 50 printers, members of the Typographical Union (A.F.L.), who are conducting a strike against the Southam Publishing Company. Although the long period of industrial unrest has ended it will be some time before material shortages are alleviated and local manufacturing plants are able to resume full production programs.

Item	Kingston			Kitchener - Waterloo			London		
	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)	30	32	21	8	8	5	23	24	40
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	418	342	703	925	799	1,686	2,082	1,603	1,978
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	1,138	921	-	1,135	1,620	-	3,234	3,600
3. Jobs available during month	-	1,480	1,624	-	1,934	3,306	-	4,837	5,578
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	610	774	-	345	933	-	1,195	1,949
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	259	113	-	750	273	-	1,309	904
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	335	418	556	1,416	925	1,357	1,640	2,082	1,672
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	584	532	263	244	267	106	781	764	901
% female	29.5	28.4	39.5	17.2	19.5	27.4	26.5	24.7	26.6
% veterans	25.0	30.1	20.9	37.7	41.9	46.2	42.8	29.6	25.9
% vets. unplaced 15 years or more ..	18.7	25.2	6.8	11.9	11.2	14.2	16.1	12.4	5.4
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month ..	499	482	169	195	213	21	694	657	497
% under 20 years	24.7	19.3	-	15.9	14.1	-	14.9	13.8	-
% 20 - 45 "	45.1	48.7	-	56.9	54.9	-	46.5	41.1	-
% 45 - 60 "	17.0	16.6	-	10.8	16.4	-	14.7	20.4	-
% over 60 "	13.2	15.4	-	16.4	14.6	-	23.9	24.7	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	963	1,068	-	506	1,142	-	1,950	3,430
3. Total workers available in month	-	1,495	1,331	-	773	1,248	-	2,714	4,331
% referred	-	72.8	106.9	-	83.3	100.3	-	73.6	82.1
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	559	584	349	246	244	152	765	781	1,134
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.	18,700	18,508	17,000	29,600	29,400	32,800	33,500	32,800	28,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	30.63	29.83	-	30.82	30.20
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	224	76	-	550	110	-	140	93

x Figures subject to revision.

Kingston

At present the only manufacturing firms hiring labour to any extent are the Aluminum Company of Canada Limited and A. Davis and Son Limited (leather tanners). The latter company is finding it extremely difficult to secure husky labourers for the "wet" departments, where men of exceptionally high physical standards are required. The Canadian Shipbuilding and Engineering Company recently laid-off about 20 men, having completed work on a contract to build some tugs. This company will soon start repair work on the S.S. Cayuga and will again increase its staff. The Canadian Locomotive Company Limited continues to be on a 32-hour week, awaiting steel supplies. As a direct result of the steel shortage, quite a number of machinists, fitters, riveters and welders are temporarily unemployed. Construction continues to be active, with carpenters, bricklayers and labourers in short supply. In addition to the numerous building projects now underway, construction of a \$500,000 Colonial Coach bus terminal is scheduled to begin shortly. All indications point to there being a decided shortage of all types of construction labour for some months to come.

Kitchener-Waterloo

Strikes and material shortages are the key to the present employment situation in the area. When the entire rubber industry was on strike, the workers involved represented about 34 per cent of total manufacturing employment. The strike in Dominion Rubber tire division has been settled, but the textile divisions of Dominion Rubber and B. F. Goodrich Rubber Company of Canada Limited are still on strike. Material shortages have caused a temporary lay-off of 110 employees, and a permanent lay-off of 26 in the radio division of Dominion Electronics Industries Limited. The rubber strike is chiefly responsible for the decreased demand in other industries as many strikers have changed to alternative and sometimes lower-paid employment. An influx of outside workers continues to be blocked by lack of living accommodation. The furniture industry still has an acute need for skilled woodworkers. Construction has a substantial demand for both skilled and unskilled construction workers. The urgent demand for skilled auto mechanics continues.

London

The marked easing of industrial tension in the London area reflects the settlement of the many and prolonged strikes throughout the province. As predicted, local manufacturing plants weathered the steel strike without any large scale lay-offs. As a result of the shortage of steel, brass, copper, rubber, electrical goods, etc. the total output of manufactured goods during the past two months has fallen short of expectations. However, the production loss will be made up shortly, and all indications point to total manufacturing employment being well above war-time levels by January 1947. The labour shortage in this city still persists, and is expected to be even more acute as industrial activity gathers momentum. All industries are affected by the manpower shortage, the following being particularly short-handed at the present time: restaurants, hotels, laundries, food products manufacturers, and textile factories.

Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	20	14	24	101	178	276	53	53	20
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	576	1,058	578	527	402	740	1,783	1,656	2,355
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,050	1,396	-	823	810	-	2,694	5,767
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	2,108	1,974	-	1,225	1,550	-	4,350	8,122
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	608	708	-	408	607	-	972	3,174
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	449	484	-	331	218	-	2,270	1,295
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	270	576	651	453	527	666	1,494	1,783	2,145
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	242	389	321	3,122	3,726	2,587	3,196	3,395	647
% female.....	22.3	26.5	11.8	30.5	27.1	69.3	42.2	41.9	28.1
% veterans.....	34.7	15.9	20.9	29.9	26.3	7.8	28.8	31.5	70.8
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	12.8	9.0	6.9	14.1	8.6	3.9	10.6	16.7	21.0
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	204	368	149	2,943	3,659	2,587	2,976	3,153	530
% under 20 years.....	16.7	39.4	-	10.4	8.6	-	9.1	9.4	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	48.5	32.3	-	65.3	64.6	-	60.2	61.7	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	19.1	13.3	-	19.0	23.4	-	18.6	16.8	-
% over 60 ".....	15.7	15.0	-	5.3	3.4	-	12.1	12.1	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	675	1,127	-	1,972	3,195	-	2,826	6,484
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,064	1,448	-	5,698	5,782	-	6,221	7,131
% referred.....	-	73.0	77.0	-	15.8	12.6	-	40.1	62.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	346	242	368	1,796	3,122	4,418	3,201	3,196	1,057
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	17,600	17,400	15,400	17,700	17,500	16,000	60,600	60,600	53,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ".....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28.85	28.37
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	25	18	-	226	47	-	744	250

x Figures subject to revision.

Niagara Falls

Labour demand in the canning industry is beginning to slacken off, although workers still are required by the local wineries, which are in the midst of their grape crushing season. Tourist trade continues to be active, with demand for service workers remaining strong. Because of the crowded state of hotels in the larger cities, Niagara Falls is fast becoming a year-round convention city. Hotel and restaurant owners anticipate a busy winter season, and everything points to the continuation of this business for some time to come. In general, local manufacturing plants are maintaining a steady production level. Labour demand is expected to increase still further when steel supplies start to move again. Construction continues to be very active, but contractors are seriously held back by shortages of materials of all kinds. The 100 houses (Wartime Housing) being constructed by the Carter Construction Company are nearing completion. Further, contracts have been let for several factory additions in the area.

Oshawa

Production at the General Motors of Canada Limited plant continues to be spasmodic owing to uncertain material deliveries. However, it is expected that by mid-November normal production will be resumed. There is scant possibility of a seasonal low in employment in the automobile industry during 1946-1947 because of the enormous back-log of consumer demand for automobiles. The strike at Duplate Canada Limited terminated on October 2. However, a slight staff reduction resulted from the company's inability to carry on certain operations at the now increased wage rates. The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company strike was settled on October 21, operations will be back to normal by the first of November. Placements in the construction industry have declined during the past month, chiefly because the majority of building projects have progressed beyond the stage where common labour is required. In general, the supply of male labour is substantial, but single female workers are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain. Many married women are available for employment, but few employers will accept applicants in this category.

Ottawa

Harvesting in the Ottawa area has been completed and fall ploughing now is underway. The supply of farm labour has been barely adequate to meet requirements. It is unfortunate that the Polish Veterans did not arrive in time to assist with harvest operations; nevertheless, these men will be placed without any difficulty on arrival. In the manufacturing field, labour demand is lighter than it has been for some time, presumably because of the current shortage of basic materials. One of the main employment problems in Ottawa is finding jobs for hundreds of clerical workers who were released from Government offices after the war. Girls who were earning salaries above \$100 a month state that they cannot possibly live on \$60 (average monthly earnings of inexperienced store clerks) because of the present high cost of living. In the male labour field, demand remains strong for skilled construction workers. Veterans graduating from Canadian Vocational Training Courses have helped to relieve the shortage, but many more workers could be absorbed if available.

Item	Peterborough			St. Catharines			Sault Ste. Marie		
	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed) ..	17	21	16	42	38	52	115	110	27
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	382	408	556	1,011	1,594	1,031	2,390	816	1,337
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	892	932	-	2,376	1,324	-	2,286	1,173
3. Jobs available during month	-	1,300	1,488	-	3,970	2,355	-	3,102	2,510
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	719	649	-	789	1,073	-	205	519
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	391	287	-	773	109	-	312	169
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	438	382	684	257	1,011	792	2,238	2,390	1,896
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	484	470	213	1,108	1,283	837	1,012	947	323
% female	7.4	8.9	26.8	45.3	50.9	58.4	38.6	32.8	78.0
% veterans	45.2	46.4	16.4	25.1	24.5	6.9	13.2	18.7	2.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.	26.0	27.2	3.3	12.1	15.0	1.7	10.0	9.0	2.2
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	362	344	104	1,048	1,234	764	956	899	289
% under 20 years	14.1	18.9	-	11.9	13.8	-	9.2	9.2	-
% 20 - 45 "	56.9	56.4	-	64.8	66.7	-	68.3	66.9	-
% 45 - 60 "	18.2	14.5	-	16.0	13.6	-	17.3	18.9	-
% over 60 "	10.8	10.2	-	7.3	5.9	-	5.2	5.0	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	1,031	952	-	1,263	1,856	-	535	681
3. Total workers available in month	-	1,501	1,165	-	2,546	2,693	-	1,482	1,004
% referred	-	79.7	85.9	-	47.8	54.0	-	17.8	52.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	392	484	326	1,235	1,108	1,395	1,061	1,012	390
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	23,400	23,500	20,000	29,300	29,000	27,000	9,200	9,200	14,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	61	66	-	140	68	-	611	79

x Figures subject to revision.

Peterborough

Lack of steel is preventing many factories in the area from expanding employment and will cause lay-offs if supplies are not available soon. On the other hand, foodstuffs and packing plants are taking on many workers. Prior to the strike settlements a few workers were arriving here every day from other areas. Building construction is behind schedule because of the tightened material supply situation which has also caused employment fluctuation in the industry. There will be the usual shortage of loggers in the area, as in previous winters. Female stenographers, textile workers, and other factory help are badly needed. Few local applicants are available and outsiders do not come to this area because of housing difficulties.

St. Catharines

Employment activity in St. Catharines slackened off considerably during October. The two main causes of this decline are (1) the termination of seasonal work in agriculture and food processing and (2) production curtailment in heavy industry stemming from industrial disputes in basic industries throughout the province. While the majority of strikes now have been settled, it will be some time before the normal flow of materials is resumed. Secondary industries in the area are maintaining production in the face of rapidly dwindling stock piles, but expansion in these industries is out of the question at the present time. Reflecting the current lack of industrial activity, the number of unplaced applicants remained unchanged, while job vacancies dropped during the past month. The number receiving unemployment insurance benefits continues to decline. Handicapped persons and workers temporarily unemployed because of material shortages make up a large proportion of those receiving benefits.

Sault Ste. Marie

The steel strike settlement has caused a marked shift of striking workers from temporary positions back to the steel industry. Steel production will probably get underway in a week or so as workers are gradually called back. Nearly 100 men resigned their positions with the Algoma Central Railway, increasing the already great shortage of labourers for extra gang work. The heavy demand for woodsmen increased as steelworkers returned to former employment. However, transfers-in from outside points continue. This could be attributed to the good pay and camp facilities offered by the Abitibi Power and Paper Company. A serious cave-in which occurred at the Michipicoten Iron Mines resulted in the postponement of additional hiring until further notice. Construction, although active, is fairly well supplied with labour. Orders for construction workers, both skilled and unskilled, are spasmodic.

Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	33	38	33	24	26	38	102	70	31
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	2,589	3,088	2,037	20,024	16,893	22,673	333	245	1,149
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	2,450	2,910	-	23,436	30,582	-	608	1,114
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	5,538	4,947	-	40,329	53,255	-	853	2,263
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	1,309	1,761	-	7,857	16,617	-	348	784
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	1,278	437	-	13,653	6,349	-	128	71
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	3,055	2,589	1,675	12,594	20,024	23,012	361	333	765
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	1,022	1,076	639	9,781	10,538	8,827	572	777	243
% female.....	39.0	37.5	32.7	10.9	9.4	15.9	46.5	60.5	57.2
% veterans.....	22.5	22.0	11.1	45.8	43.5	35.9	20.3	12.6	3.3
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	8.8	10.4	1.7	26.4	28.0	5.4	13.5	5.7	1.6
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	800	795	370	8,482	9,768	3,363	533	725	172
% under 20 years.....	17.2	18.0	-	5.2	4.7	-	13.5	15.4	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	62.3	62.3	-	49.2	49.5	-	62.3	62.8	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	10.9	10.8	-	26.8	24.1	-	16.7	15.6	-
% over 60 ".....	9.6	8.9	-	18.8	21.7	-	7.5	6.2	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,542	2,363	-	13,811	28,066	-	552	1,059
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	2,618	3,002	-	24,349	36,893	-	1,329	1,302
% referred.....	-	54.4	70.6	-	54.2	65.7	-	52.2	82.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	923	1,022	904	8,928	9,781	14,118	836	572	316
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	28,200	27,200	27,500	377,800	376,200	368,300	8,200	8,200	10,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ".....	-	-	-	-	33.25	32.66	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	78	52	-	4,753	3,339	-	12	25

x Figures subject to revision.

Sudbury

Large-scale recruiting for the fall and winter cut has started. Employers report a serious shortage of husky men for bush work. The high rate of labour turnover prevailing in the logging industry makes it extremely difficult for camp operators to maintain full production. During one week alone, 84 men were placed with two logging camps, while separations from these camps during the same period totalled 85 - a net loss of one. Local pulp operators are fairly well supplied with labour; in spite of the higher wages offering, labour turnover in this industry is heavy also. Employment in the base metal mining industry still is far from adequate. According to reports received from one of the largest local mines, 120 men were hired and 73 released at their own request during the first five days of this month. In the service industries, there is a strong demand for experienced help. The majority of job seekers in this category are unqualified, therefore extremely difficult to place.

Toronto

Although it was thought that the end of the various strikes throughout the province would result in an improved employment situation, demand for male help has shown a definite decline during the past two weeks. This is due to the overall shortage of materials. It will be some time before the effects of the released flow of materials are felt in the smaller industries here. The demand for skilled tradesmen has eased of late and there has been little activity in the field of semi-skilled and general factory help. Construction continues to be active, although some of the larger building projects still are being held up by the lack of steel. In the service field, the labour shortage is especially acute. Generally speaking, employers are becoming more particular about the type of worker they employ, and it is becoming increasingly hard to place older men. The exceptionally high rate of labour turnover in hotels, restaurants, laundries etc. makes it even more difficult for employers to maintain adequate staffs.

Welland

The labour dispute affecting employees of the Electro Metallurgical Company of Canada Limited has been settled, and work resumed on October 14. It is expected that all employees desirous of returning will be back within the next two weeks. Some workers however, took other jobs during the strike and will not return. Canada Foundries and Forgings Ltd. is on a short work week because of material shortages. Production at the Standard Steel Company Ltd. has been curtailed, necessitating a lay-off of ten men. The John Deere Plow Company recently expanded its plant facilities, thus labour demand has shown a marked increase. A high production level is being maintained at the Page Hersey Tubes Ltd. plant, and orders placed with the employment office are being readily met. In the male labour field, skilled textile workers, carpenters, machinists and heavy labourers are in short supply. Most urgently required among female workers are the following: stenographers, service workers, and skilled textile workers.

Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct.x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct.x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	152	260	163		49	46	29	27	26
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	317	258	724	5,105	4,830	6,548	1,048	1,138	1,240
2. Vacs.notified during month.....	-	1,415	2,005	-	8,294	7,087	-	1,958	1,811
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	1,673	2,729	-	13,124	13,635	-	3,096	3,051
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	985	1,781	-	4,181	5,328	-	1,120	1,373
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	723	641	-	4,705	3,914	-	852	421
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	272	317	601	3,525	5,105	4,864	565	1,048	1,151
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	12,585	8,185	2,934	6,836	7,010	5,286	828	711	702
% female.....	14.0	18.8	43.7	21.8	26.6	27.8	30.1	36.4	43.7
% veterans.....	16.0	24.2	17.5	39.4	40.4	26.7	36.5	30.9	35.0
% vets.unplaced 15 days or more.....	13.2	15.6	5.2	25.7	27.8	14.1	32.0	26.3	20.4
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month..	12,460	8,107	2,607	5,512	6,197	3,966	632	597	656
% under 20 years.....	5.1	6.8	-	8.4	7.7	-	23.4	20.3	-
% 20 - 45 "	83.1	78.0	-	60.4	64.8	-	46.5	49.4	-
% 45 - 60 "	9.9	12.3	-	16.9	15.3	-	18.5	18.2	-
% over 60 "	1.9	2.9	-	14.3	12.2	-	11.6	12.1	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	7,249	6,045	-	8,370	9,250	-	2,194	2,498
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	15,434	8,979	-	15,380	14,536	-	2,905	3,200
% referred.....	-	9.9	27.2	-	47.3	55.5	-	69.7	72.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	7,332	12,585	5,552	7,111	6,836	5,893	925	828	771
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	48,100	48,400	34,100	141,800	138,600	127,300	31,600	31,000	29,700
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	37.35	39.72	-	30.63	29.90	-	29.55	27.72
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	492	184	-	974	831	-	464	94

x Figures subject to revision.

Windsor

Employment prospects are brighter than for the past three months. Four major strikes were settled this month (Chrysler Corporation of Canada Limited, Canadian Industries Limited, Brunner-Mond Canada Limited, and Truscon Steel Company of Canada Limited). It is expected that by October 28, 2,000 Chrysler workers will be back on the job. Three hundred employees of the Truscon Steel Company will return to work on the same date, and Canadian Industries Limited expect to be in full production by November 1. The Ford Motor Company still is on a three-day-week; the shortage of rubber and steel continues to hold up production in this plant. In general, material shortages still are serious, with the following manufacturing plants operating on a part-time basis: A. Young Industries of Canada Limited, Canadian Motor Lamp Company Limited, Essex Wire Corporation Limited, Auto Specialties Manufacturing Company (Canada) Limited, and Godfredson Limited. Lay-offs have taken place in a number of small "feeder" plants in the Windsor area. It will be some time before these plants are on their feet again.

Winnipeg

While a considerable number of farm vacancies are open, applicants possessing the required skills are taking employment in the logging, mining, or packing plant, industries. Experienced men for mining operations are scarce but many inexperienced men now are accepting this type of work. While the demand for loggers was substantial, the present strike is holding up operations. Meat packing plants have a fairly strong demand for labour; this office expects to be able to fill all requirements. Steel and iron foundries are well supplied with help. Many workers, principally women, are needed in the textile industry; up to date production has been held back by lack of workers. It is felt that the new rates of pay for the textile industry will encourage applicants to accept this type of work. There is a brisk demand for all types of construction labour with very few skilled, or physically fit men available.

Regina

Harvesting is about 70 per cent completed. Meat packing and dairy plants are fully staffed as the flow of farm produce is again normal. The Imperial Oil and Consumer Oil Companies are working at capacity with full staffs. The two local chemical companies and the paint company have remained consistantly busy. Sash and door factories, steel foundries, and concrete products companies are suffering from serious cut-backs caused by lack of respective material requirements. General grain hauling and oil trucking are in full swing. Generally speaking, all construction work is proceeding at maximum capacity, activity of course being modulated by inadequate supply of materials. Lack of merchandise is holding down employment and vacancies in the retail and wholesale trade and most retail stores do not require the additional staff usually needed at this time of year.

Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	32	21	24	55	50	40	32	31	23
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	737	899	721	1,286	1,224	1,884	2,096	2,174	2,044
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,246	1,516	-	4,044	3,562	-	4,479	4,289
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	2,147	2,237	-	5,268	5,446	-	6,653	6,333
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	555	737	-	2,459	2,367	-	2,840	3,005
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	902	779	-	1,300	903	-	1,938	720
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	554	737	934	964	1,286	1,874	2,206	2,096	2,054
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	967	1,078	883	2,421	2,519	1,470	2,228	2,143	1,498
% female.....	41.1	32.9	39.3	23.4	21.2	25.6	29.1	15.6	28.3
% veterans.....	32.2	49.4	30.8	46.9	46.3	23.8	34.7	42.7	30.5
% vets.unplaced 15 days or more.....	16.8	25.0	11.4	30.8	31.1	11.4	11.0	21.7	8.5
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month..	857	978	609	2,242	2,330	1,343	1,923	1,840	1,085
% under 20 years.....	14.2	14.6	-	13.0	13.2	-	13.1	11.0	-
% 20 - 45 "	58.2	61.3	-	55.1	56.2	-	57.7	55.9	-
% 45 - 60 "	17.9	15.7	-	19.1	18.1	-	18.2	21.3	-
% over 60 "	9.7	8.4	-	12.8	12.5	-	11.0	11.8	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,484	2,211	-	3,758	3,742	-	5,123	4,059
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	2,562	3,094	-	6,277	5,212	-	7,266	5,557
% referred.....	-	39.0	39.8	-	53.7	62.5	-	57.9	70.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	1,479	967	936	2,747	2,421	1,770	2,358	2,228	1,434
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	46,000	45,800	38,700	49,900	48,800	44,200	73,800	72,500	63,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " ..	-	29.25	26.87	-	32.12	31.44	-	30.46	29.76
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	727	281	-	596	1,412	-	416	818

x Figures subject to revision.

Saskatoon

Harvesting in this area is approximately 80 per-cent completed after at least a three week delay caused by inclement weather. Now that the farm strike is over, meat packing plants again require labour which now is plentiful with the release of many harvesters for other occupations. Creameries and flour mills are fully staffed. Additional help will be required at Government elevators when grain cleaning season arrives. Indications are that the bumper year of local building tile manufacturing will repeat itself in 1947. Firms in the metal lines had small lay-offs because of the steel strike but are rehiring all former employees as supplies become available. The need for skilled and unskilled construction workers continues. Many heavy labourers are required for a municipal works program and there is a shortage of competent labourers, both for construction and this program. Retail and wholesale trade have little demand for workers as many goods are in short supply.

Calgary

The recent heavy storms which hold back the harvest to the extent that while 80 per cent of cutting was completed, only 35 to 40 per cent was threshed, now have cleared and harvest operations are in full swing. With the termination of the farmers' non-delivery strike, large quantities of farm and dairy products now are available, resulting in a fair demand for labour by packing plants. In the coal industry, mine owners and union officials have settled on an agreement calling for a \$1.40 per day wage increase, a three-cents-per-ton welfare fund, and a 40 hour week. The C.P.R. shops at Ogden are extending their repair department and as a result require 20 machinists and five boilermakers. Although demand for private dwellings has made this the most active construction year since 1929, lack of housing accommodation still makes it difficult to bring in workers from outside points. To date 1,328 permits have been issued this year for private homes. As a result skilled and unskilled construction workers are very scarce.

Edmonton

Threshing in this area is about 75 per cent completed. Another two weeks should see the end of this farm work. Hog and cattle production are both below that of the same period last year because of the strike among farmers, but deliveries now are returning to normal and demand for men is strong. As at October 8, butter production was down approximately one million pounds compared to this time last year. Flour mills, however, were not affected by the farmers' strike, and are obtaining sufficient help from among the harvesters who now are finishing work in some parts. Logging operations are starting up and as a result men are required in all districts. The larger woods operators, having lost prisoner-of-war help, are doubtful about obtaining sufficient labour this winter. All saw mills urgently require men. The local aircraft plant producing Bellanca aircraft has temporarily suspended operations, one reason being shortage of materials. It is expected that production and employment will be increased when new orders are obtained. Demand is very high for skilled construction tradesmen despite current material shortages.

Item	Trail			Vancouver			Victoria		
	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945	Oct. x 1946	Sept. 1946	Sept. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)	39	31	13	71	80	62	42	40	30
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	294	259	131	6,072	6,501	9,008	1,338	1,298	1,323
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	378	228	-	13,028	14,362	-	2,099	1,982
3. Jobs available during month	-	637	359	-	19,529	23,370	-	3,397	3,305
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	229	150	-	5,439	9,951	-	1,100	1,558
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	135	50	-	8,982	4,512	-	803	417
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	203	294	173	3,644	6,072	7,978	603	1,338	1,083
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	278	267	85	14,840	16,439	9,598	1,811	1,975	1,222
% female	59.0	55.2	29.4	18.2	15.5	22.6	19.4	16.8	29.0
% veterans	24.8	16.1	14.1	34.4	38.4	24.0	37.3	38.9	26.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	15.1	11.6	12.9	24.2	27.4	5.3	24.2	25.0	3.4
B. Unreferred applicants first of month	236	213	69	13,134	15,013	6,792	1,713	1,899	893
% under 20 years	9.3	6.6	-	5.8	6.5	-	8.2	12.7	-
% 20 - 45 "	53.8	53.5	-	53.2	55.2	-	40.5	39.3	-
% 45 - 60 "	17.0	15.0	-	28.2	27.1	-	28.7	28.3	-
% over 60 "	19.9	24.9	-	12.8	11.2	-	22.6	19.7	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	308	260	-	13,185	20,901	-	1,860	2,210
3. Total workers available in month	-	575	345	-	29,624	30,499	-	3,835	3,432
% referred	-	42.8	51.0	-	31.0	46.4	-	34.3	54.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	354	278	102	13,390	14,840	11,960	1,900	1,811	1,463
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	9,000	9,000	8,100	189,700	185,500	192,800	45,600	45,200	48,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	33.09	33.37	-	31.63	32.70
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	6	21	-	2,205	2,206	-	438	765

x Figures subject to revision.

Trail

Main labour requirements in this area call for experienced construction workers, and woodsmen. Shortages of materials and experienced help are preventing increased employment in construction. Skilled carpenters and bricklayers are most urgently required. Logging companies require fallers, buckers, and teamsters. The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company still require 150 competent general labourers for smelter operations; applicants must be between 18 and 40 years of age, and able to pass a rigid medical examination. While living accommodation is strictly limited in the town, some accommodation is provided in the C.M. & S. bunkhouse, for twenty-five cents per day. Female requirements call for experienced stenographers, waitresses, and domestics. Employers emphasize that applicants must be single.

Vancouver

Many of the important industries of the area are suffering from a lack of competent labour. Shipping officials announce that a shortage of stevedoring crews along the waterfront is delaying the sailing of many of the ships in port. Certified engineers, mates, masters, and diesel engineers are at a premium. The need for men in the logging industry is amply illustrated when one considers that while employment in August 1946 was slightly less than that in August 1939, during the same time demand for logs and lumber has tripled. Mining requirements are dormant because of labour disputes which at the moment are approaching settlement, but the potential capacity for labour in this industry is substantial. The current lack of steel is forcing metal working plants to reduce staffs, but when materials become available a heavy backlog of orders will guarantee a staff increase to normal, and in some cases expansion in employment. Canning factories have a heavy demand for labour, principally female; all suitable applicants sent to the canning factories have been absorbed and operators are seeking workers wherever they are available.

Victoria

The most notable change in the employment picture recently has been a very beneficial increase in shipbuilding activity. The Victoria Machinery Depot has an urgent demand for shipwrights and joiners who are, however, not available in this area at the moment. Yarrow's Limited have not yet begun their new contract, their only requirements for labour at the moment being draughtsmen and loftsmen. There are no available applicants in these trades. Orders for loggers and sawmill workers are increasing, although skilled applicants for logging camps are very scarce in the Victoria area and most men are obtained from Vancouver. There is a shortage of experienced seamen for coastal vessels and tugs. The housing situation is stringent; at least 150 families will still be desperately in need of homes this winter. This condition is due to the critical shortage of building materials and, to a lesser degree to scarcity of construction labour. Lack of merchandise is holding down demand for labour in the retail and wholesale trades.

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CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET

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AS WE GO TO PRESS

Unplaced Applicants in Canada, registered at National Employment Service Offices hit the 155,000 mark at December 12, 1946. The first week of December saw a rise of 3,000, and the last week of November an increase of 6,000. This steady uptrend reflects the seasonal slowdown of activity in agriculture, transportation, fishing, and construction. Expansion in the logging industry was the one offsetting factor. The tight material supply situation, a strike aftermath, shows slow recovery, preventing a rapid comeback of activity in manufacturing industries, following major strike settlements.

Unfilled Vacancies in Canada, in line with the steady seasonal downtrend, fell 32,000 below the November 14 figure, to reach 98,000 at December 12, 1946. A sharp drop of 11,000 took place in the past two weeks. Job orders cancelled because of the uncertain material supply situation, together with the large-scale influx of workers released from the slackening seasonal industries into the labour market were the major factors causing the downtrend in job openings. The fact that the labour supply in the logging industry topped all expectations also contributed to the downswing.

Unplaced Ex-servicemen in Canada totalled 47,000 at November 30, against 44,000 at October 31. Jobless ex-servicemen out of work 15 days or more climbed 4,000 from October 31, to reach 31,000 at the end of November. Those unplaced 15 days or more, then, constituted 65.6 per cent of all jobless veterans at November 30, against 62.1 per cent at the end of October. Unplaced veterans constituted 32 per cent of total unplaced applicants in Canada at the end of November, a slight drop from the 33 per cent at the end of the previous month.

Discharges of Service Personnel in November of this year reached the lowest level since V-E day, totalling 6,000 at the end of the month. This brings total discharges since V-J day to 687,000. December and January forecasts indicate releases from the armed forces to be about 4,000 and 3,500 respectively.

A Classification of Canadian Labour Market Areas at November 28, 1946 places one area in the Acute unemployment category, corresponding to conditions in the "Mid-Thirties", and one other area in the Serious unemployment group. Continuing the trend of the past six months, New-Glasgow-Pictou remains in the Acute unemployment classification, and Sydney, in the Serious unemployment group. The relative employment status of Windsor, reflecting post-strike recovery, changed from Serious to Moderate, corresponding to employment conditions in 1941.

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THE MANPOWER PICTURE

Current Situation

During November, many workers from the slackening seasonal industries entered the labour market. Employment conditions eased considerably in agriculture, fishing, transportation, and construction.

The only large-scale expansion which tended to offset this decline was in the logging industry. High wages in logging will likely attract enough manpower to permit the reaching of the production objective for the season. If so, this will be the first season since the war started in which enough woods labour has been available to meet requirements. The high turnover, however, is still a problem.

Amongst manufacturing industries, plants directly affected by the strikes this summer now have been in production for some weeks, but the problem of filling supply shortages is only beginning to be solved—consequently many firms still are indirectly affected. The settlement of the American coal strike has removed one threat to Canadian supply lines.

There were several significant developments in the November manpower picture which point to future trends. The removal of wage controls will likely permit greater flexibility in labour-management bargaining and may help to prevent lengthy work stoppages. On the other hand, if an extensive rise in wages occurs, the result will be an even greater pressure on price ceilings.

Another sign of things to come is the indication of a buyers' strike in the clothing industry, particularly in the Quebec region, where high-priced goods are not selling in the volume expected.

Industrial Employment

Employment continues to climb—The volume of industrial employment in the nine leading industries showed further expansion at the beginning of October. At October 1, 1946, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported a total of 1,897,951 persons employed in firms with 15 or more workers, representing an increase of 27,375 or 1.5 per cent over September 1. This gain, which was largely seasonal in character, slightly exceeded the average pre-war seasonal increase as determined from the years 1931 to 1940. During the recent war years, the average seasonal movement for the same period was slight. The index, based on the average level of 1926 as 100, rose from 174.2 to 176.5. This indicates a level of employment that is approximately 45 per cent above that of 1939.

Highest employment advances in Maritimes--Industrial employment at the beginning of October showed improvements in every region except the Prairies where a decline of 0.5 per cent occurred. The Maritime region recorded the greatest advance with 2.8 per cent while British Columbia registered a contra-seasonal gain of 1.0 per cent. Ontario and Quebec also reported seasonal gains in employment of 1.5 and 1.7 per cent respectively. It should be noted that the decline in the Prairie region came as a result of the farmers' strike.

Upswing continues in manufacturing employment--A combined working force of 988,963 persons was reported in manufacturing at the beginning of October. This represents an advance of 5,516 or .6 per cent over the September 1 total of 983,445. When compared with the normal pre-war seasonal increase, based on the period 1928 to 1939, the current gain is slightly greater. The average seasonal variation from 1940 to 1945 showed a downward swing. The major part of the current rise occurred in the non-durable goods sector as strikes were still restricting the production of durable goods.

Seasonal slowdown in non-manufacturing industries--Among the non-manufacturing industries, increases of employment were recorded in logging, transportation, and trade at October 1. The normal seasonal slowdown was reflected in communications, construction, and services, while a contra-seasonal drop was reported in the mining industry.

Seasonal increases in logging operations--Responding to the normal seasonal increase which took place from September 1 to October 1 in pre-war years, the logging industry disclosed a sharp gain in employment of 23.3 per cent during September. Early this fall the labour supply for logging was not adequate to meet requirements but now that the high wages are attracting many workers it is believed that the labour needs will be met.

Transportation expands--Employment in this industry showed an expansion of 1.4 per cent at October 1, which, in comparison with the pre-war seasonal movement, is a normal development prior to the winter slump. The rise was due to more brisk activity in shipping, stevedoring, and steam railway operation.

Seasonal gain in trade above normal--In comparison with the normal pre-war seasonal variation, employment at October 1 in wholesale and retail trade showed a 2.4 per cent gain that was above the average for the season. This situation is likely to continue for some time due to the accumulated backlog of demand for consumer goods and wartime savings which have created a vast potential purchasing power.

Downward swing continued in mining--At the beginning of October, a downward movement of .9 per cent was revealed in employment in the mining industry. This drop is contra-seasonal in comparison with the pre-war seasonal pattern for that time but compares favourably with the average seasonal decline during the war years. While the British Columbia mining strikes were partly responsible for the decline, critical labour shortages were seriously curtailing production in many mines. Certain mining areas are unable to solve their labour problems due to the critical housing shortage that still prevails.

Normal seasonal decline in communications--A normal seasonal decline of .7 per cent occurred in communications at the beginning of October. Although this group shows very little seasonal variation at any time, the decline was even less than the average pre-war seasonal decline. However, a delay of construction and maintenance work during the war has caused seasonal activity to be greater than normal.

Reduced activity in construction--The construction industry suffered an employment decrease of .3 per cent at October 1, slightly more than the normal pre-war seasonal decrease for the same period. The decline was centred in the building and railway groups while highway work was more active. This industry has been seriously hindered by material shortages caused by industrial tie-ups.

Seasonal downtrend in service industries--Employment in the service industries experienced a seasonal downswing of 1.7 per cent at the beginning of October. This was less than the average pre-war seasonal variation at that time but more than the decline that occurred in the war period. By this time the seasonal closing of hotels and restaurants at summer resorts would tend to accentuate the downgrade.

Industry analysis on basis of purpose classification--The following is an analysis of the trends in employment of the major components of the manufacturing industry. From January 1, 1946 to October 1, as shown in Table I at end of section, reported employment in all manufacturing industries rose 4.8 per cent, while the average pre-war seasonal movement for the same period was a gain of 9.8 per cent. Among the component industries the major part of this increase occurred in the consumer non-durable sector. For the period under review, declines in the producer goods industries were still traceable to industrial disputes.

Consumer non-durables continue to expand--From the beginning of the year until October 1, employment in this sector has risen by 12.5 per cent; of this gain, 3.0 per cent occurred during September. The food, clothing, and beverage divisions recorded the greatest expansion. Upon the basis of the period 1942 to 1945, the gain in food, during September, was seasonal. The experience of the years 1931 to 1937 shows that a decline of employment in beverages occurs during September. The gain this year, therefore, was contra-seasonal. During the first nine months of the year, employment in industries ancillary to non-durables experienced an increase of 4.1 per cent--1.2 per cent of which occurred from September 1 to October 1. In this sector, employment increases took place in the industries primary to food and primary to clothing while declines occurred in printing and publishing and in containers. In comparison with the seasonal indices derived from the years 1942 to 1945 for food, and from 1930 to 1939 in the case of clothing, the gains were seasonal in character. Upon the basis of the years 1929 to 1945, the decline in industries primary to printing and publishing was also seasonal. The drop in containers was contra-seasonal when compared with the normal seasonal indices based upon the years 1939 to 1942.

With respect to industries primary to clothing and miscellaneous finished textiles there is a definite shortage of labour but workers are disinclined to seek low-paid employment. Regarding this situation, one executive said:

"Our situation is serious. We are caught between higher production costs, shortages of labour, and the price ceiling. But we have to continue to produce because of our very heavy fixed costs. We need 3,000 additional workers to produce at capacity, but at present we see no prospect of getting them. The high turnover among female employees is expected to increase after January 1, when the new income tax regulations for married women come into effect."

The following statement was made by the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association concerning the newsprint industry:

"The factors that shape the industry's future are the raw material (wood pulp) situation, manufacturing efficiency, and adequate markets. If we avoid unwise merchandising policies and are willing to compromise between immediate advantage and long range stability, the prospects for the future are reasonably good. Labour must also compromise between short term gains and long term outlook, otherwise costs may be pushed to a limit that will destroy stability."

In the consumer durable finished goods industries an increase of 5.7 per cent in employment has occurred since January 1, 1946. The seasonal pattern of this group has been so disrupted by labour disputes that it is impossible to trace any recent variations to seasonal causes.

Producer goods industries fall short of January level—Further declines in this sector during September brought employment down 1.1 per cent below the January level. The decline is chiefly attributable to material shortages arising from work stoppages in basic supply industries. The machinery building industry showed a decline in employment although there is a high demand for its products due to a backlog of orders. The movement of employment was downward in the integrated steel industry but improved conditions are anticipated. Employment in chemicals and chemical products, and in shipbuilding, were lower than the previous month. Employment in the non-ferrous metals group remained relatively the same, although a seasonal decrease would normally occur. This departure from the normal downswing reflects the substantial demand for these products. A slight increase in employment in the construction materials industry was contra-seasonal while lumber mills showed considerable seasonal curtailment.

Unemployment

Seasonal rise in unplaced applicants—The number of unplaced applicants registered with the National Employment Service now is 37,000 less than that one year ago. At November 28, 1946, unplaced applicants totalled 143,000. At the same time last year, they numbered about 180,000. During this November, however, there was a seasonal increase of 9,000 in unplaced applicants. This seasonal rise usually begins in October, but this year the effect of widespread strike settlements postponed such a development.

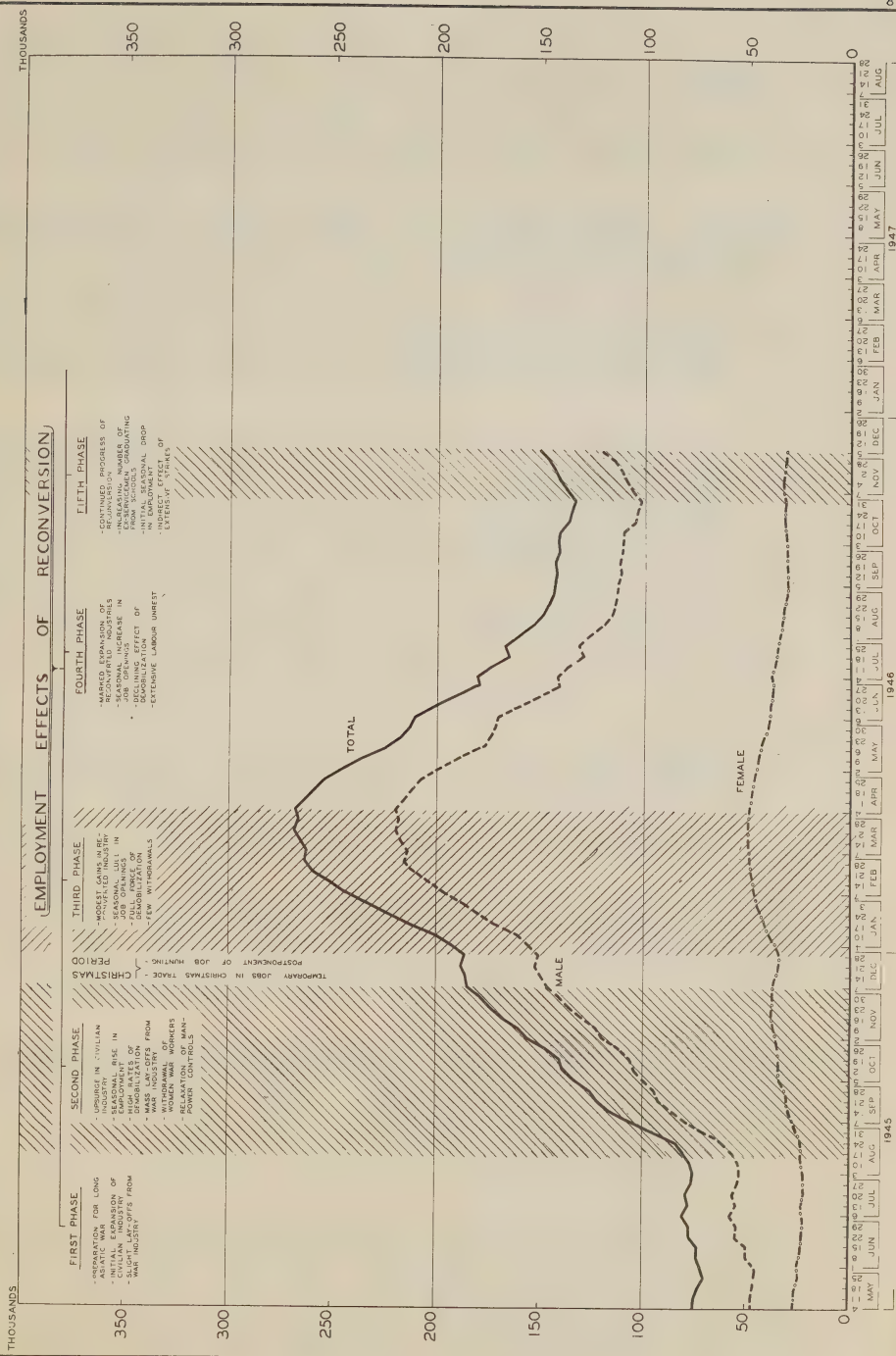
Rise focused on males—As men constitute a larger proportion of the labour force, the rise in unplaced applicants was focused on male workers. Male unplaced applicants at November 28 totalled 115,000 as compared with 102,000 at the end of October. During the previous month there was a decline of 9,000. Female unplaced applicants remained unchanged at November 28 with a total of 32,000.

The proportion of unreferred applicants (workers registered as unplaced applicants who have not yet been referred to jobs) to all unplaced applicants fell to 90.7 at November 21, 1.8 points less than in October and a decline of 6.3 points since the end of March when the ratio was at its 1946 peak.

Maritimes and Pacific continue to bear greatest unemployment load—The heaviest burdens of unemployment, as related to the non-agricultural labour force, are still being carried by the Maritime and Pacific regions.

UNPLACED APPLICANTS IN CANADA

AS REPORTED BY THE
NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



SOURCE: ADVANCE REPORT ON LABOUR SUPPLY & DEMAND

1946

1947

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART C-116

In the remaining regions, Ontario, Quebec, and the Prairies, the unemployment load is relatively lighter. It should be noted that the incidence of unemployment is based upon the non-agricultural, rather than on the total labour force, since unplaced applicants are largely concentrated in the urban areas. Current ratios are based upon the D.B.S. Labour Force Survey of August 31, 1946. (See Table II at end of section.)

Unplaced applicants exceed vacancies—The largest number of unfilled vacancies at the end of November were again for skilled and semi-skilled male workers. On the other hand, unplaced applicants were concentrated mainly in the unskilled group.

Applicants outnumbered openings for female workers in the professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service groups. Male unplaced applicants also exceeded the number of vacancies in this field. (See Table III)

Unfilled vacancies continue to drop—Reporting of unfilled vacancies again slackened during November as compared with the previous month. The decline is a normal development following the busy seasonal activity in early fall. Approximately 109,000 vacancies were unfilled at November 28 in comparison with 133,000 at the end of the preceding month and 94,000 at November 30, 1945. The current decline was centered in male labour needs. The demand for female workers remained relatively the same. The only rise in labour demand for males occurred in the communications industry in Ontario, in wholesale trade in Quebec, Ontario, the Prairies, and Pacific, and in retail trade in the Maritimes, Ontario, and Quebec. Labour demand for female workers in retail trade rose in all regions.

Live claims show further decline—The number of persons signing the live unemployment register during the last six working days of October totalled 57,036 (39,957 males and 17,079 females) compared with 57,682 (41,022 males and 16,660 females) at the end of September. The normal seasonal decrease in employment caused a less rapid re-employment of claimants during October.

There were 7,399 claims disallowed during October, as compared with 5,604 in September. Claims disallowed because of loss of work due to labour disputes increased from 353 to 417; 2,786 were due to insufficient contributions and 2,741 were for voluntarily leaving work without just cause—both representing increases over the previous month.

Termination of benefit payments rises—During September, 1946, the payment of unemployment insurance benefits was terminated for 46,172 workers in comparison with 40,127 in August. The major cause of termination was the lapsing of benefit rights with 20,598 or 45 per cent of the workers concerned terminating benefit years in this manner. In August, 11,557 or 29 per cent of the workers were reported as lapsing benefit rights.

Increase in exhausted benefit rights—The number of persons who exhausted their benefit rights during September was 5,130—442 more than in August. Of all terminations, this represents 11 per cent in contrast with 12 per cent during the previous month. Of those whose benefit rights were exhausted, 1,429 or 28 per cent were over 60 years of age while in August the same group represented 27 per cent. At the same time, persons between the ages of 20 and 30 accounted for 24 per cent. On the basis of occupations, 26 per cent of those exhausting benefit rights were labourers and 30 per cent were manufacturing and mechanical workers.

Payrolls and Weekly Earnings

Payrolls and weekly earnings maintain upward—Following the upward trend in industrial employment, the aggregate payroll index, based on June 1, 1941 as 100, rose from 145.9 at September 1 to 149.9 at October 1. The employment index on the same base rose 1.6 points. Although much of this expansion took place in industries where earnings are relatively low, the considerably greater gain in payrolls was the result of higher wage rates.

Per capita weekly earnings also rose from \$32.81 at September 1 to \$33.23 at October 1. This brought weekly earnings to a level higher than either that of October 1, 1944, of \$32.36 or of October 1, 1945, of \$32.16. The same factor affecting aggregate payrolls contributed to this rise.

Hourly Earnings

Average hourly earnings in manufacturing at October 1 were 71.4 cents, an increase over the 70.6 cents recorded at September 1. This gain was largely the result of higher rates of pay in those industries producing lumber products, flour and other milled products, rubber products, tobacco, electrical apparatus, agricultural implements, and vehicles. On the other hand, declines occurred in the primary iron and steel, aeroplanes and parts, and petroleum products industries.

Hours Worked

Average weekly hours worked in manufacturing industries rose from 42.7 at September 1 to 42.8 at October 1. As labour disputes were still restricting operations in durable goods at this time, the non-durable goods sector was responsible for the increase.

Strikes and Lockouts

Major strikes settled—Settlement of all major strikes was the chief industrial relations development in October. The time loss in Canada due to strike idleness declined by more than 260,000 man-days during October as compared with the previous month and by more than 23,000 man-days as compared with the same period last year.

Preliminary figures show 27 strikes and lockouts in existence during October, 1946, involving 32,919 workers, with a time loss of 393,296 man-working days. In September, there were 33 strikes in progress, 33,030 workers involved, and a time loss of 657,601 man-days. At the same time last year, there were 18 strikes, involving 25,868 workers with a time loss of 419,242 days.

At the end of the month, seven strikes were recorded as unterminated, namely those amongst metal miners in British Columbia, logging and lumber camp workers at Timmins and the Lakehead, Northern Ontario, fish handlers at North Sydney, Nova Scotia, wood veneer factory workers at St. John, New Brunswick, and silverware factory workers at Toronto.

With the settlement of major strikes, Canadian industry appears to be capable of resuming rapid and full expansion of civilian production. However, the recent strike wave had such serious and widespread effects on production that the return to normal will have to be a gradual process.

Table I—Employment Trends by Major Industrial Group
(Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S.)

Industry	Jan.1 1946	Oct.1 1946	Change	
			No.	%
Consumer Non-Durable Finished Goods Industries	283,125	318,632	35,507	12.5
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Non-Durables.....	141,160	148,262	7,102	5.0
Consumer Durable Finished Goods Industries.....	117,228	123,927	6,699	5.7
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Durables.....	1,328	1,203	-125	-9.4
Producer Goods Industries.....	376,978	372,758	-4,220	-1.1
Total Manufacturing.....	920,819	964,782	43,963	4.8

Table II—Unplaced Applicants as a Percentage of Non-Agricultural
Labour Force by Region

(Source: Labour Force Survey, D.B.S. Labour Demand and Supply, Research and Statistics Branch)

Region	November 17, 1945			February 23, 1946			November 28, 1946		
	Non-Agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Non-Agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Non-Agric. Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%
Maritimes	303,000	12,000	4.0	310,000	22,000	7.1	346,000	20,000	5.8
Quebec...	1,072,000	60,000	5.6	1,011,000	85,000	8.4	1,073,000	36,000	3.4
Ontario...	1,300,000	54,000	4.2	1,282,000	80,000	6.2	1,356,000	43,000	3.2
Prairies...	462,000	24,000	5.2	488,000	40,000	8.2	516,000	26,000	5.0
Pacific...	322,000	19,000	5.9	344,000	33,000	9.6	367,000	21,000	5.7
Canada...	3,459,000	169,000	4.9	3,435,000	260,000	7.6	3,658,000	146,000	4.0

Table III—Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants by Occupation
as at November 21, 1946

(Source: Revised Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch)

Occupational Group	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Canada.....	80,761	40,643	121,404	110,925	32,374	143,299
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service	8,018	17,944	25,962	25,628	21,467	47,095
Skilled and Semi-skilled....	52,598	8,602	61,200	36,530	5,021	41,551
Unskilled (a).....	20,145	14,097	34,242	48,767	5,886	54,653

(a) Includes farm hands and fishermen

Table IV—Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note: All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Indicators	Oct. 1939	Oct. 1940	Oct. 1941	Oct. 1942	Oct. 1943	Oct. 1944	Oct. 1945	Sept. 1946	Oct. 1946
Employment (a) -									
Index (av. 1926 - 100),...	121.7	135.1	163.6	178.5	184.5	180.6	167.0	174.2	176.5
(June 1, 1941 - 100)	-	-	108.2	118.1	122.0	119.7	110.7	115.4	117.0
Number (thousands).....	1,307	1,450	1,756	1,916	1,981	1,939	1,793	1,870	1,895
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	441	511	522	453	431	440
Unemployment (b) -									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	62.4	128.7	144.8	142.5
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	33.2	95.6	113.9	111.5
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	29.2	33.1	30.9	31.0
Live Claims -									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	5.7	48.4	61.8	57.7
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	3.9	32.8	44.2	41.0
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	1.8	15.6	17.6	16.7
Earnings (a) -									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941 - 100)	-	-	112.8	136.8	149.4	149.9	137.7	145.9	149.9
Per capita weekly earnings	-	-	26.46	29.55	31.52	32.36	32.16	32.81	33.23
Cost of Living (c) -									
(Av. 1935 - 39 - 100)....	103.5	107.0	115.5	117.8	119.3	118.6	119.7	125.5	126.8
Man-hours and hourly earnings (a) -									
Average hours per week	-	-	-	-	-	-	44.7	42.7	42.8
Average hourly earnings	-	-	-	-	-	-	67.8	70.6	71.4
Strikes and lockouts (b) -									
Number.....	27	22	23	26	38	14	18	33	27
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	6.5	8.1	5.5	6.1	6.4	4.3	25.9	33.0	32.9
Man-working days lost									
(thousands)	33.7	17.9	19.7	26.9	25.6	7.1	419.2	657.6	393.3
Industrial Production (d)-									
(Av. 1935 - 39 - 100)	119.4	141.3	198.6	238.6	283.3	259.7	210.8	172.5	184.2

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

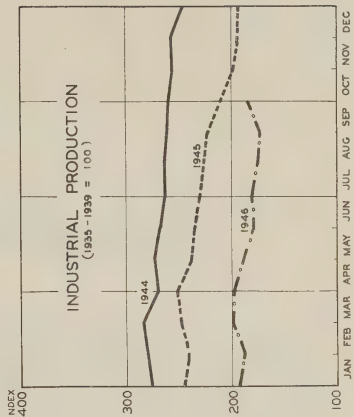
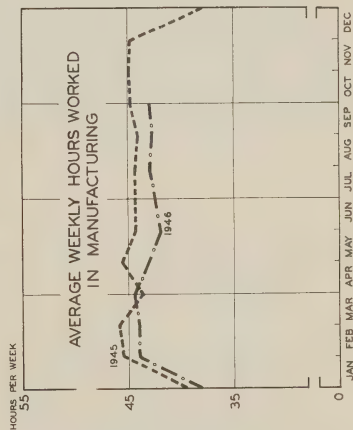
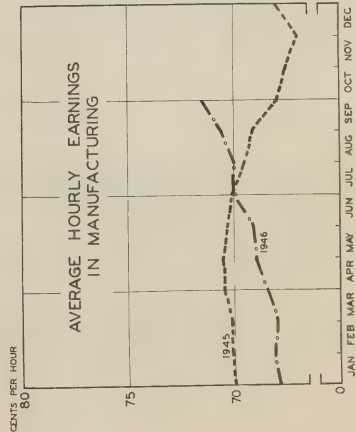
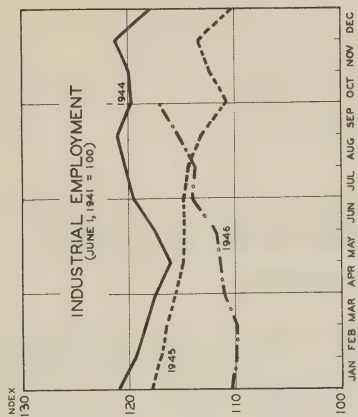
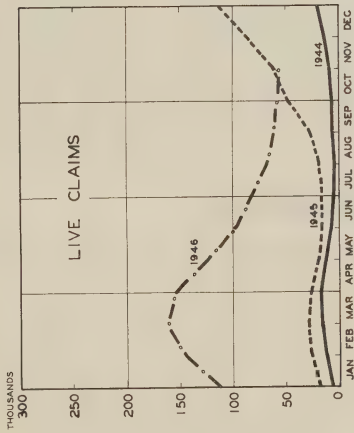
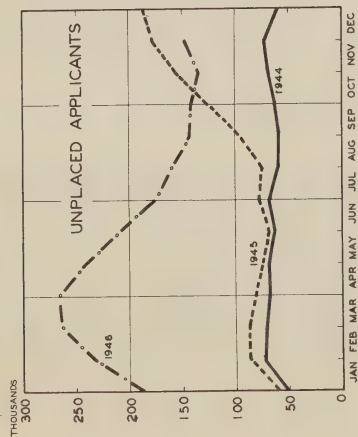
(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.B.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

SELECTED LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

1944 — 1945 — 1946



OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Agricultural

The slackened activity of the agriculture industry during October was reflected in a sharp drop in vacancies. Despite the lessening in labour demand, absorption of the Polish immigrants who have recently arrived, has been progressing satisfactorily. Those who cannot be immediately placed on farms will be encouraged to accept work in the labour-short logging camps. Transference of farm labour reached the peak for 1945 and 1946 during the month as extensive programs for movement of potato pickers was carried out in the Maritime provinces. During October 1,018 placements were made weekly, 25 per cent of which were effected by transferring help. The lull in labour requirements during the next few months will be offset by the migration of farm hands to the logging camps.

Non-Agricultural

Peak placement activity for the fall season was witnessed during October. More persons were placed in practically all industries. An exceptionally marked rise took place in applicants securing positions in the executive and managerial class. Future prospects for employment, however, point downward. Fewer vacancies were reported with a corresponding drop over the period in the number remaining on file. The influx of seasonal workers was not felt to any extent during October, consequently these persons will present a heavy work-load during the coming months. The accelerated activity of the Christmas season together with the high consumer demand, however, will add buoyancy to the employment prospects for these workers.

Vacancies Notified

Future employment drop indicated by decline in vacancies—Employment is commencing to level off, prior to the normal winter slackening in industrial activity. The peak in vacancy reporting was reached in September, followed by a downward movement in October. This contraction of vacancies was largely the result of seasonal slackening in industries such as food processing, transportation and construction. The rapid succession of settlements reached in labour disputes during October somewhat checked the falling off in labour demand in strike-affected industries. However, since retooling to normal

production takes a considerable period of time no substantial influx of orders is expected for some time. Notification of vacancies in logging camps shrank during October but demand continued to constitute almost 20 per cent of vacancies reported. Counterbalancing the overall downward trend will be the accelerated activity of the Christmas season, offering numerous temporary job opportunities in wholesale and retail establishments. Average weekly non-agricultural vacancies totalled 40,000 in October.

High point of job accumulation passed—Vacancies on file continued to climb until the middle of October. Since that time there has been a steady dropping off in job orders on file at National Employment Offices. This reversal of trend is indicative of the marked seasonal fluctuations existent in our economy.

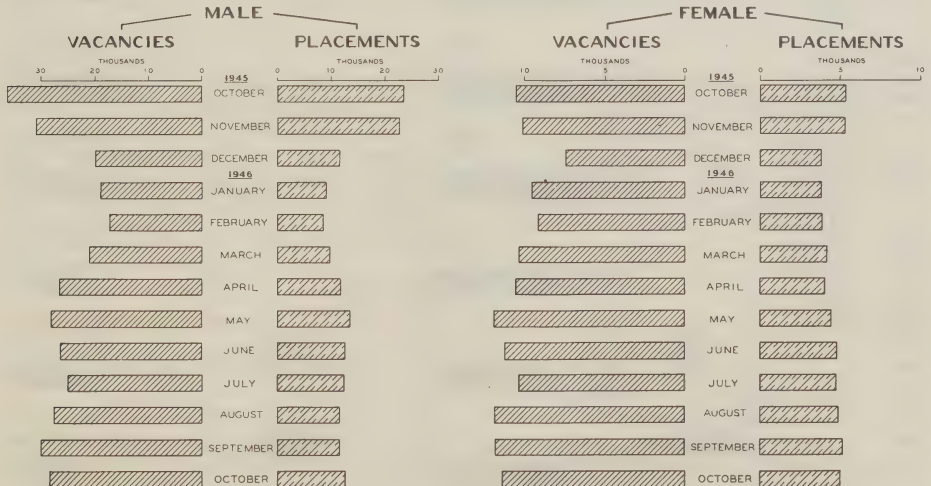
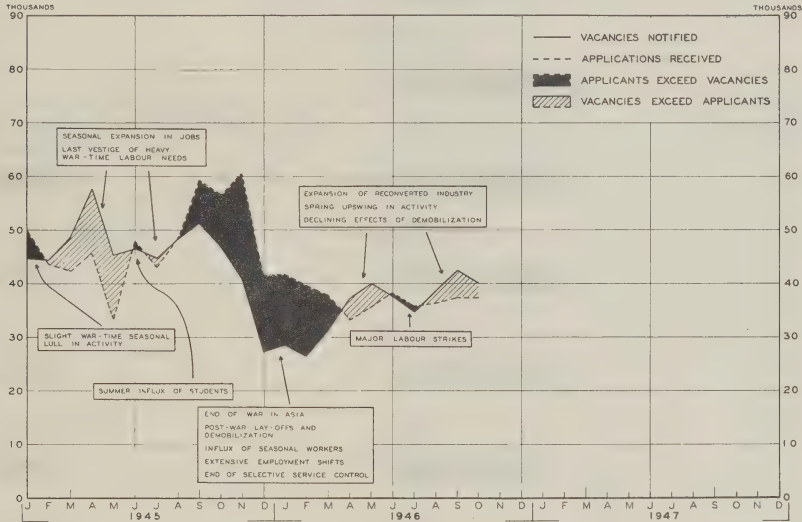
Seasonal meat packing, mining, and communication demands active—Labour needs of meat packing plants almost doubled in October. With overseas demand for foodstuffs almost unlimited, production goals have been launched to exceed the 1945 peak. Demand for help totalled 800 a week in October. Despite the jump in orders for workers, the rise in labour needs has been met for the most part — by the end of October only 857 jobs remained unsatisfied. Workmen were required in increasing numbers in the non-metallic and coal mining industries. The latter rise was due in part to the exit of workers to the logging camps. In addition, the threat of the United States coal mine strike has necessitated intensified production activity in Canadian mines. Electrical light and power plants, and telephone companies increased their labour requirements as the freer flow of repairs and supplies was brought about by the resumption of production in major steel plants.

Applicants Registering

Applications level off—The upward trend in applications, evident during the past few months, levelled off during October. Workers were recalled to their jobs as the supply of vital raw materials was replenished. Industries recently inactive because of labour disputes have reported that some workers are not returning to their former jobs but are remaining in the positions which they temporarily secured while on strike. This condition will probably augment labour requirements during the next few months. Applications for employment are being constantly combed in order to find suitable workmen for the logging camps. Applicants, however, continue to be reluctant to accept this work. Others are postponing entering the woods until after the Christmas season. Average weekly applications for employment totalled 37,000 during October. Employment prospects are considerably brighter than one year previous, at which time 57,000 a week were registering for work and approximately 300,000 service personnel were to be released before the end of March.

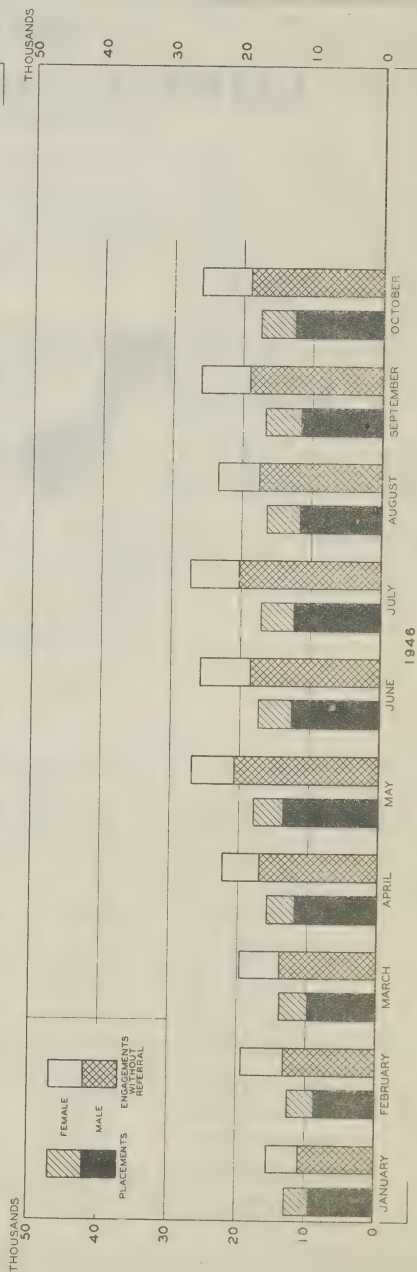
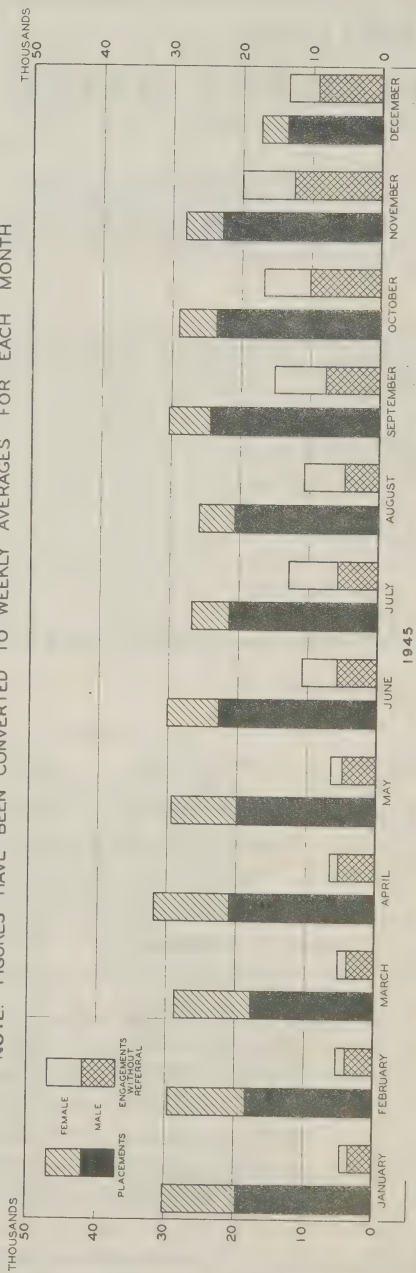
Reduction of unplaced applicants—With no serious influx of workers appearing at National Employment Service offices during October, work-applications on file again started to decline. There were 8,000 fewer workers on file at October 31 than five weeks earlier. Much of the drop was due to the decline in unplaced women in Quebec and Ontario.

OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ON A COMPARATIVE MONTHLY BASIS



PLACEMENTS BY THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AS COMPARED WITH WORKERS OBTAINING THEIR OWN JOBS

NOTE: FIGURES HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH



SOURCE: U.I.C. '751

Vacancies remain in excess of applications—More vacancies than applications were reported in October. This situation however was due solely to Quebec and Ontario while elsewhere applications exceed vacancies. Sixty-nine per cent of the labour demand but only 59 per cent of the applications for employment were in those two provinces, indicating the vulnerability of non-industrialized segments of the economy to seasonal fluctuations.

Referrals

Referral activity brightens—Referrals moved upward during October to reach the May peak. Activity gained in practically all fields with the logging camps, reporting a two-thirds jump, while referrals to the mining industry increased by one-third. The settlement of strike issues, the influx of work-orders during September, and the release of help from farms, construction projects, and food canneries enabled employment offices to speed up the number of referrals effected. A buoyant demand was maintained in many of the summer seasonal activities while expansion forged ahead in the winter-active industries. In addition, as slackening of job opportunities for women took place, the number of referrals dispatched to labour-short service and textile industries increased. The upswing in referral activity was greater for men than for women, with Ontario and Quebec particularly benefited. Average weekly non-agricultural referrals numbered 28,000 during October.

Referrals per job available climb—More referrals were effected per job available during October than in September, with the number of referrals made per 100 jobs available rising from 37 to 41. The time-lag which exists between notification of jobs and recruiting of labour accounts partially for this discrepancy. At this time particularly, this condition persists as employment offices are searching their live files to obtain suitable labour for the logging camps.

More referrals per live application—Despite the fact that the level of job-seekers remained practically unchanged, referrals showed a sharp upswing. Whereas in September 36 referrals were effected for every 100 live applications (the number on file at the beginning of the month and those registering during the month), in October the referral rate rose to 42. This indicates the intensified efforts of the employment officials to place workers while job opportunities continue to be plentiful.

Placements

Seasonal upswing in placements—The contra-seasonal contraction of placements during September was relieved in October as activity increased in practically all fields. The accelerated flow of workers to logging camps has commenced with placements increasing by 62 per cent during the month. The influx of orders for workers for the mines, meat packing firms, heat and power plants, telephone companies and the public service were reflected in a corresponding increase in placing help in those industries. In addition, the gradual return of industrial peace has improved the "hiring rate" in manufacturing firms. The Prairie Provinces and Quebec accounted largely for the increase in placements during the month. Placing of women has started to drop, the falling off being confined largely to Ontario and British Columbia. Non-agricultural placements totalled 18,000 a week during October.

Relatively little transfer of labour—Two per cent of placements during both September and October were persons transferred in from other local office areas. A comparative figure for the United States Employment Service during September, the latest available date, was five per cent. Transference of help in the Dominion during the current period was confined largely to the primary or related industries. "Transfers-in" comprised 15 per cent of placements in the mining industry and 13 per cent in the logging camps. In addition, 9 per cent of hirings into canning factories were effected by employing help from outside areas. Similarly labour-short rubber factories met 8 per cent of placements by transferring labour. The influx of workers from seasonal industries offers a potential source of labour for transfer to labour-short factories or logging and mining camps. The effectiveness of clearance activity is closely allied to the availability of training facilities. Since the facilities of Canadian Vocational Training schools are required at present to train ex-service personnel, provision of training courses has been largely left to individual industries. Recently, the provincial government of Ontario and private industry have collaborated to provide a school for textile trainees.

Almost one-tenth of placements were of short-time duration—Nine per cent of placements during October were of seven days duration or less. These were confined largely to trade and service establishments. Seventy-nine per cent of the domestic servants placed were on a temporary basis. This large proportion is due to the growth of "Home-Aids" projects throughout the Dominion. More than half the help placed in undertaking establishments was of short-time duration. In addition, non-profit organizations and trade establishments received considerable part-time help. Casual placements may be expected to increase shortly as fewer permanent jobs are made available.

Engagements Without Referral

Direct hiring rate unchanged—Engagements without referral by National Employment Service remained constant during October. The increased rate of engagements into logging camps was offset by the gradual decline evident elsewhere. The Quebec and Ontario provinces reported gains while a downward trend was evident in the Prairie Provinces and British Columbia. It is significant that whereas engagements showed little change during the month, placements moved upward. In September, engagements without referral were 36 per cent in excess of placements. By October, the comparative percentage was 33. As available labour supply dwindles, employers are using more extensively the services of the employment offices in order to obtain suitable help. There were 26,000 engagements without referral made per week into non-agricultural industries during October.

Separations

Separation rate drops sharply—The quick succession of labour dispute settlements during October resulted in a decided cut in the number of persons laid-off from manufacturing and related industries. Lay-offs from seasonal non-agricultural industries have not yet gained momentum. Consequently, the separation rate was at a low level during October. Non-agricultural separations averaged 29,000 a week as compared with 34,000 in September. The decline was general throughout the country with a proportionately greater decline for women than for men.

Executive and Professional Offices

The promotion of expansion projects has been constantly curbed by the shortage of experienced managerial personnel and skilled technical help. Despite the fact that this situation is general throughout the country, there has been a steady exit of this class of worker to the United States. Undoubtedly much of the migration may be attributed to the higher salaries offered across the border. However, the need for a systematic collection of suitable existing job opportunities in Canada has constantly grown. This service is one of the main purposes of the Executive and Professional offices. These offices maintain a placement service on a regional level with many job-orders and vacancies cleared on a Dominion-wide basis. Since their inauguration in September, 1945, there have been 12,000 vacancies reported and 20,000 applications for employment received. In addition, many visits have been made by persons presently employed. Approximately 4,600 placements have been effected. The trend of placements has been chiefly downward following the high level reached during the three-month period directly after V-J Day. However, an upturn was evident during September and October as school staffs were replenished and business firms expanded their employment of technical and managerial personnel.

Placements jump—The current situation at Executive and Professional offices indicates stepped-up referral and placement activity. However, future prospects present a less optimistic picture. During October, applications for work rose slightly while vacancies took a sharp drop. Placements increased 34 per cent to total 59 a week during October. On the other hand, vacancies, tapering off 32 per cent during the month, averaged 168 a week. Weekly applications during the comparative period numbered 286.

At November 14, there were 1,441 (1,192 male and 249 female) managerial and professional openings available. The heaviest demand in this class was for salesmen, followed closely by a substantial need for engineers. As the closing of the books, at the year-end approaches, the demand for accountants and auditors moved upward. Openings were also plentiful for draftsmen, managers and supervisors. Graduate chemists and pharmacists are needed in considerable numbers throughout the country. Over one-half the demand for women was for trained nurses. In addition, stenographic and secretarial help were urgently required. Dieticians, welfare workers, teachers, and laboratory technicians continued to be in short supply. Unplaced applicants at that date totalled 2,096 (1,870 male and 226 female). Many of these were in the older age bracket and were registered for clerical or sales work.

Special Placements Section

Persistent efforts are being made throughout the various countries to establish the "physically handicapped" as essential and normal components of the labour force. The Congress of United States has unanimously decided to set aside one week of each year for a nation-wide appeal to employers to open up employment opportunities for "handicaps". The "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week" is promoted by various Federal agencies such as Department of Labour, United States Employment Service, Department of Agriculture, Civil Service Commission, the Public Health Service, etc. In

addition, representatives from industry, labour, farm, educational, civic and other groups are actively sponsoring the objectives of this campaign. The program does not confine itself to "educating" employers but also stresses the need for the "disabled" to avail themselves of the opportunities afforded. It suggests that they immediately register at the Employment Service or other appropriate government offices.

In Great Britain, two Orders have recently been made under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944. The first Order raises from 2 to 3 per cent the percentage of disabled persons which must be employed in firms having 20 or more employees. In addition, it provides for extension of this quota in industries particularly adaptable to employment of impaired persons. The second Order stipulates that openings in specific occupations are reserved solely for the impaired worker unless special permission is granted by the Minister of Labour. At present only two occupations, car park attendants and elevator operators, have been specified but the coverage may be enlarged from time to time. Also, the Government has provided "sheltered employment" in non-competitive industries for severely handicapped persons.

Unplaced handicaps decline—Placement of handicapped workers in National Employment Service offices receded slightly during the period September 15 to October 12 due solely to the drop in female "hirings". Placements effected numbered 1,317 (1,070 male and 307 female). Fewer handicapped persons were seeking work at the end of the period than one month earlier. Unplaced applicants at October 12 totalled 6,151 as compared with 6,819 at September 14, the drop being confined largely to the decline in civilian applications in Quebec. Although the number of women unplaced has been rising during the past few months, they were still less than 10 per cent of the total at the October date.

Youth placements—One of the prime functions of the National Employment Services is to direct youths into the most advantageous employment channels. Employment counsellors in the Special Placement Section deal directly with this problem. Recent reports indicate a continually growing co-operation between these officials and school and community organizations. In some cases, National Employment Service officials are invited to outline to the students the services which are available for them. In other cases, a co-operative plan allows the Employment Service to recruit students during "seasonal rush" periods. Permanent jobs for "first jobbers" tend to be concentrated in Montreal or Toronto while Vancouver reports only limited employment opportunities. As the pressure for training of ex-service personnel subsides in the Canadian Vocational Training schools, these facilities will become available for fitting youths into profitable employment fields.

Table I—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified
And Applicants Registered, by Province, During October, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies		Average Weekly Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
CANADA.....	40,011	100	37,271	100
Maritime Provinces.....	2,360	6	3,112	8
Quebec.....	10,007	25	8,715	23
Ontario.....	17,823	44	13,205	36
Prairie Provinces.....	5,597	14	6,991	19
British Columbia.....	4,224	11	5,248	14

Table II—Average Weekly Placement Operations of Executive and
Professional Offices During October, 1946.

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Office	Applications	Vacancies	Referrals	Placements
TOTAL.....	286	168	168	59
Moncton.....	10	7	10	4
Montreal.....	115	73	42	25
Toronto.....	97	65	13	17
Winnipeg.....	16	14	27	7
Vancouver.....	48	9	26	6

Table III—Placement of Handicapped Persons, by Sex, With Percentage Veterans,
From September 15, 1945 to October 12, 1946.

Date	Placements			% Vets
	Male	Female	Total	
Sept. 15 - Oct. 14, 1945.....	836	316	1,152	27
Oct. 15 - Nov. 14 ".....	886	384	1,270	29
Nov. 15 - Dec. 14 ".....	811	362	1,173	32
Dec. 15 - Jan. 14 ".....	426	210	636	36
Jan. 15 - Feb. 14, 1946.....	487	308	795	33
Feb. 15 - Mar. 14 ".....	604	241	845	37
Mar. 15 - April 13 ".....	841	275	1,116	38
April 15 - May 14 ".....	867	242	1,109	40
May 15 - June 14 ".....	967	277	1,244	46
June 15 - July 13 ".....	965	248	1,213	46
July 15 - Aug. 14 ".....	1,296	294	1,590	55
Aug. 15 - Sept. 14 ".....	1,045	345	1,390	43
Sept. 15 - Oct. 12 ".....	1,070	307	1,377	46

Table IV—Non-agricultural Vacancies Notified as Reported by the
National Employment Service, October, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Vacancies During Month	Average Weekly Vacancies		
		Number	% Change From	
			Sept. 1946	Oct. 1945
All industries.....	200,054	40,011	+ 5.5	-14.5
Logging.....	38,981	7,796	- 7.2	-10.3
Mining.....	5,399	1,080	+ 9.4	-25.7
Manufacturing.....	58,171	11,634	- 4.4	-19.7
Food and kindred products.....	12,061	2,412	-19.2	-14.9
Textiles, apparel, etc.	10,018	2,004	+ 3.9	-17.0
Lumber and finished lumber products....	6,425	1,285	- 8.3	-28.2
Pulp and paper products and printing...	5,260	1,052	- 1.8	-21.9
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,734	347	+ 2.1	-25.9
Products of petroleum and coal.....	317	63	-30.0	+16.7
Rubber goods.....	1,182	236	+38.8	-18.1
Leather and products.....	1,537	307	- 7.0	-24.2
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,711	342	-11.6	-23.3
Iron and steel and their products.....	4,943	989	+18.4	-14.0
Non-ferrous metals.....	2,458	492	+ 0.8	+ 0.4
Machinery.....	5,301	1,060	+13.5	- 4.6
Transportation equipment.....	2,993	599	-22.7	-49.2
Miscellaneous.....	2,231	446	+ 2.3	-12.0
Construction.....	25,198	5,040	- 5.3	-13.6
Transportation and storage.....	9,691	1,938	-20.6	-31.7
Other public utilities.....	2,574	515	+23.5	+12.2
Trade.....	21,982	4,397	- 1.4	-10.9
Finance and insurance.....	2,866	573	+13.0	- 5.3
Public and professional service.....	11,315	2,263	- 1.4	+ 3.5
Other service.....	23,877	4,775	-10.3	-10.5

Table V—Non-agricultural Placements as Reported by the
National Employment Service, October, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Place- ments During Month	Average Weekly Placements		
		Number	% Change From	
			Sept. 1946	Oct. 1945
All industries.....	87,901	17,580	+ 6.0	-39.4
Logging.....	5,509	1,102	+61.8	-64.2
Mining.....	2,875	575	+30.7	-38.3
Manufacturing.....	27,025	5,405	+ 3.1	-44.7
Food and kindred products.....	5,642	1,129	- 6.3	+43.4
Textiles, apparel, etc.	3,842	769	+ 4.9	-37.7
Lumber and finished lumber products....	3,400	680	+ 1.2	+45.0
Pulp and paper products and printing..	2,356	471	+ 8.0	-43.1
Chemicals and allied products.....	865	173	+18.5	-45.3
Products of petroleum and coal.....	181	36	-12.2	-26.5
Rubber goods.....	435	87	+40.3	-61.9
Leather and products.....	626	125	+35.9	-43.7
Stone, clay and glass products.....	925	185	- 9.3	-36.4
Iron and steel and their products.....	2,401	480	+11.9	-48.5
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,389	278	+12.6	-19.9
Machinery.....	2,325	465	+ 1.8	-47.5
Transportation equipment.....	1,697	339	- 6.1	-62.0
Miscellaneous.....	941	188	+20.5	-41.8
Construction.....	14,438	2,888	+ 7.7	-33.3
Transportation and storage.....	5,731	1,146	- 7.8	-47.9
Other public utilities.....	972	194	+10.2	-44.3
Trade.....	10,668	2,134	- 3.1	-31.9
Finance and insurance.....	1,087	217	+ 4.3	-39.7
Public and professional service.....	5,961	1,192	+10.8	-27.1
Other service.....	13,635	2,727	+ 3.2	-14.9

Table VI—Non-agricultural Engagements Without Referral as Reported by the
National Employment Service, October, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Engage- ments During Month	Average Weekly Engagements		
		Number	% Change From	
			Sept. 1946	Oct. 1945
All industries.....	130,247	26,049	+ 0.2	+ 53.3
Logging.....	22,069	4,414	+15.0	+ 57.2
Mining.....	3,265	653	+ 0.2	+111.3
Manufacturing.....	44,278	8,856	- 0.3	+ 57.5
Food and kindred products.....	9,192	1,839	- 2.8	+ 59.1
Textiles, apparel, etc.	6,730	1,346	- 7.1	+ 11.8
Lumber and finished lumber products....	4,743	949	- 5.7	+ 62.5
Pulp and paper products and printing...	4,209	842	- 3.8	+ 54.2
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,296	259	+12.6	+ 40.0
Products of petroleum and coal.....	467	93	+47.6	+173.5
Rubber goods.....	759	152	+18.8	+ 90.0
Leather and products.....	1,571	314	- 2.2	+ 41.4
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,383	277	+17.4	+ 99.3
Iron and steel and their products.....	3,067	613	- 4.8	+ 39.3
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,758	352	+16.2	+177.2
Machinery.....	4,365	873	+14.7	+214.0
Transportation equipment.....	3,061	612	- 2.6	+ 52.2
Miscellaneous.....	1,677	335	- 4.3	+ 48.2
Construction.....	14,163	2,832	- 1.4	+141.0
Transportation and storage.....	6,894	1,379	-13.1	+ 79.1
Other public utilities.....	2,233	447	+ 7.2	+ 96.9
Trade.....	16,957	3,391	- 1.7	+ 29.8
Finance and insurance.....	2,105	421	+ 1.7	+ 36.2
Public and professional service.....	8,341	1,668	- 6.0	+ 51.9
Other service.....	9,942	1,988	- 6.2	- 3.8

ACTIVITIES OF EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

The downward trend in discharges from the armed forces continued during October with a decrease of more than 4,000 from the figure for September. It is expected that this trend will be continued as the number of service personnel still to be released continues to dwindle.

More ex-servicemen registered for work at National Employment Service offices in October than during the previous month. An increasing number of these are veterans who have been previously employed since their discharge. Similarly, placements showed an upward trend. Special emphasis is being placed on the successful establishment of disabled veterans in suitable positions. Reinstatements in civilian employment continued to taper off.

While an increase was reported in the number of ex-servicemen registering for work during the month, the number unplaced at the month-end showed a decrease. Also, the number unplaced 15 days or more dropped from 67 per cent of the total unplaced at September 30 to 62 per cent at October 31. The demand for out-of-work benefits was down, indicating improved labour opportunities.

Education and training is playing an important part in the rehabilitation of ex-servicemen and steps are being taken to meet the demand.

Advance reports for November indicate little change in the overall labour situation as it concerns veterans. The slowing down of summer industries will be met by the demand for additional help during the Christmas season and for workers in manufacturing and woods operations.

Education and Training

The demand for educational training is being ably met through the close co-operation of the Department of Veterans Affairs, universities and training centres. Canadian universities have approximately 35,000 veterans enrolled. Forty-six per cent of these are taking Arts and Science courses and 21 per cent are registered in Engineering colleges. According to estimates, about 16,000 veterans are in their first year of university, 12,000 in second, 4,000 in third and 2,000 in fourth. Another 1,000 are taking post-graduate courses. Also under D.V.A. assistance, about 1,000 Canadian veterans are studying in the United States and Great Britain.

At the end of October, 37,000 ex-service personnel were enrolled in courses under the Canadian Vocational Training program. Of this number, 13,000 were in C.V.T. schools, 11,000 taking "on the job" training and 8,000 taking pre-matriculation and correspondence courses. Special arrangements have been made for 5,000 students to study in private schools. An effort now is being made to direct veterans into occupations which offer good pay and show no signs of overcrowding.

Discharges

Demobilization dwindling—After a drop of 7,000 in discharges from the armed forces during September, a further decrease of 4,000 was reported in October when the monthly rate of demobilization reached its lowest level since V-J Day. There were 7,235 service personnel released in October. The number discharged from the navy showed a slight increase while those from the army and air force continued the downward trend. The number of women released dropped from 1,256 in September to 649 in October. With the exception of 300 service women who will be discharged when the women's division of the air force is disbanded at the end of 1946, very few women remain to be discharged. The total number of those demobilized since the beginning of the war now stands at approximately 983,000. Only about 12,000 remain to be released from the forces. Not all of these will take their discharge. It is expected that many will choose to be transferred to the permanent forces.

At the end of October the effective strength of the armed forces was 48,000. This figure excludes deserters, those missing, those on extended leave and those seconded.

Applications for Employment in National Employment Service Offices

Number of applications up 4,000—The reduced rate of demobilization now has reached the point where the flow of ex-servicemen into the labour market has little effect. The reappearance of those who had been working at summer seasonal occupations was largely responsible for the increase of 4,000 in applications for work at National Employment Service offices. There were 45,357 job seekers in October as compared with 41,329 in September. Thirty-nine per cent of these had made application during the last 15 days of the month. Of the 45,357 who applied for work, 41,099 served in World War II, 3,190 in World War I and 1,068 in both wars. Data on World War II veterans are broken down into two groups, those seeking work for the first time and those who had received previous appointments. The latter group is increasing rapidly and at the end of October rose to 23,739 or 54 per cent of the total applications as compared with 21,243 or 51 per cent in September. The number of new applicants reporting remained relatively unchanged during the period. This group, however, is expected to show further decreases in the next few months since it is largely dependent upon the rate of demobilization.

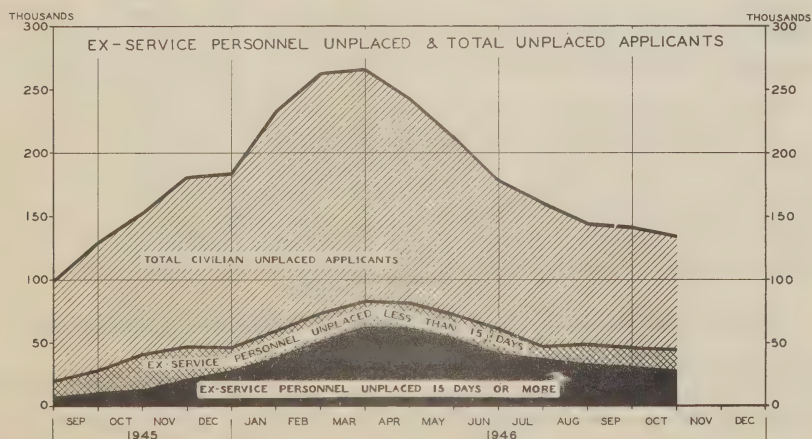
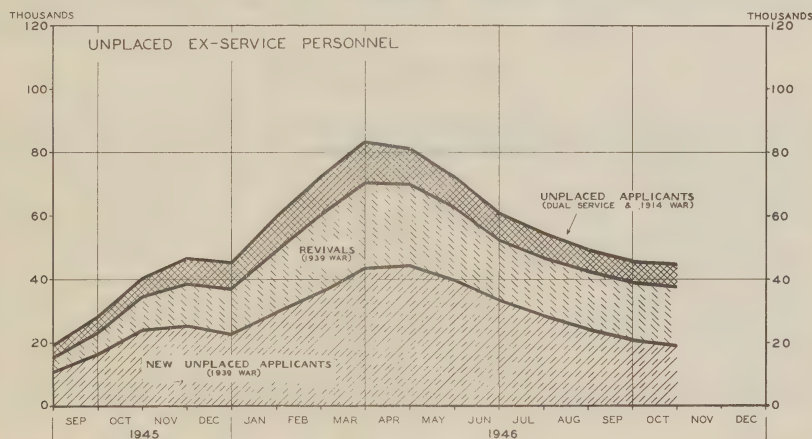
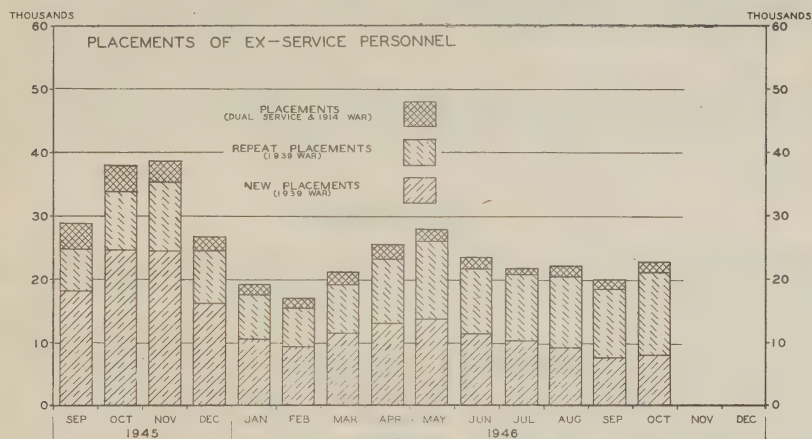
Placements

Placement rate climbs—During October placements registered an even greater increase than applications, reflecting the improved labour opportunities. The placement of 22,952 ex-service personnel was recorded at National Employment Service offices, against 20,106 during September. In addition to those placed, 3,815 persons were referred to specific jobs but their placement was still unconfirmed. Of the 22,952 veterans placed, 21,194 served in World War II and the balance, 1,758, in World War I or in both wars. The successful placement of veterans of World War I presents a very difficult problem as many of them are older men who, because of their age, cannot do heavy work. It has been estimated that the average age in this group is 51 years. Many of them have no trade and their placement is dependent on an easy labour market.

A vigorous campaign is being waged by the Special Placement Division of National Employment Service and the Casualty Rehabilitation office of the Department of National Defence on behalf of disabled persons. The excellent adjustment to civilian life these veterans have made is the most convincing

APPLICANTS AND PLACEMENTS

EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL



publicity needed for establishing them in all types of work. During the period September 15 to October 12, almost 1,400 disabled persons were placed. Of these, 633 or 46 per cent were veterans. Fifty others were referred to specific jobs but word of their acceptance or rejection by employer had not been received. At the end of the period 1,915 were unplaced. Thirty-seven per cent of these were men who had served in World War I.

Jobless ex-servicemen received 27 per cent of all placements made. Twenty-five per cent of all those making application during the month and those unplaced at the beginning of the month were placed as compared with 22 per cent in September.

Reinstatements

Downward trend maintained—A further decrease was evident in the number of ex-service personnel being reinstated in civil employment when 2,420 returned to their pre-war jobs compared with 3,706 one month earlier. This decline was to be expected as the number of persons eligible for reinstatement is diminishing, due to the dropping off in discharges. Reinstatement of ex-servicewomen dropped from 108 in September to 46 in October. There were 169 ex-servicemen who applied for reinstatement but at the end of the period had not been placed. Reinstatements since August 1, 1945 totalled 167,503 and constituted 25 per cent of all discharges.

Unplaced Applicants

A decrease in the number unplaced 15 days or more—Despite the marked increase in job applications, the number registered as unplaced at the end of October showed a decline. Summer activities are still in full swing, while manufacturing and winter industries are gaining momentum. During October, 44,854 ex-service personnel were reported as unplaced with 27,854 of these applicants registered 15 days or more. One month earlier they totalled 46,147 and 31,062 respectively. Not since last January has the number of ex-servicemen unplaced 15 days or more dropped to such a low percentage of the total unplaced as it did this month, when it constituted 62 per cent—a decline of 5 per cent from that reported at the end of September. The percentage which unplaced ex-servicemen constituted of the total unplaced fluctuated during August, September and October when it made up 34, 32 and 33 per cent respectively.

Discharged personnel of World War II only, comprised 84 per cent of the unplaced veterans at the end of October, while 12 per cent served in World War I and the balance, 4 per cent, in both wars. One month earlier the percentages were 85, 13, and 2 respectively.

The improved labour conditions during the current month are evident in the decrease in the number of veterans seeking out-of-work benefits as provided under the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order. At the end of October there were 14,390 collecting allowances and 19,018 live claims. The corresponding figures for the previous month were 16,533 and 20,870 respectively. A claim is considered "live" while it is being investigated and while the claimant is undergoing the nine-day waiting period before the veteran's payments begin.

Occupational Classification of Unplaced Ex-service Personnel.

Constant level maintained—The occupational pattern of unplaced ex-servicemen was virtually unchanged at the end of the current month. Slight declines appeared in the number of clerical and sales workers left on record while

construction and service workers advanced a few points over the previous month. The most outstanding feature of the report on percentage distribution by occupation is the constancy of unplaced applications in most trades throughout the year in spite of seasonal demands. The percentage of skilled and unskilled workers remained steady at 33 and 34 per cent respectively. One year earlier they made up 39 and 31 per cent. The civilian equivalent for October 31, 1946, was 29 per cent skilled and semi-skilled and 35 per cent unskilled as compared with 27 and 38 per cent at the end of September.

Future Prospects

It is estimated that discharges from the armed forces will not exceed 6,000 in November, 4,000 in December and 3,500 in January. This number will pass into the labour market without causing any great change. National Employment Service offices are breaking into the backlog of unplaced ex-servicemen during this period of industrial expansion. Winter jobs now are plentiful and many men who are employed at seasonal work or who are putting off starting some private enterprise until spring, will seek the profitable jobs in the lumbering industry. There seems to be a reluctance to leave family life for the lumber camp just before Christmas and many will do odd jobs such as street cleaning, working in stores or assisting on the Post Office staff during the seasonal rush. Many college students will also seek part-time employment at this season.

With the settlement of strikes in many of the basic industries, manufacturing will be stepped-up to meet the needs of the country and to build a strong export market. This will create a demand for both skilled and unskilled workers.

Table I—Discharges from Armed Forces and Applications of World War II
Dischargees by Months, October, 1945 to October, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Discharges	Applications	
		New Applicants	Revivals
October, 1945.....	92,967	43,586	18,546
November, ".....	65,398	37,726	20,329
December, ".....	38,240	24,934	16,133
January, 1946.....	56,849	27,641	18,568
February, ".....	65,235	25,025	17,075
March, ".....	70,646	30,400	18,271
April, ".....	55,762	26,288	16,874
May, ".....	38,476	25,216	19,807
June, ".....	22,897	20,166	18,961
July, ".....	20,259	20,346	20,807
August, ".....	18,443	18,972	21,471
September, ".....	11,693	16,330	21,242
October, ".....	7,235	16,552	24,547

Table II—Live Applications and Placements of Ex-Servicemen
with Civilian Comparison, October, 1945 to October,
1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B and Form U.I.C. 751B)

Month	Live Applica- tions (1)	Placements (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent(3)	Civilian Equivalents of (3)
October, 1945.....	98,125	38,298	39.0	34.3
November, "	106,955	38,674	36.2	29.5
December, "	93,652	26,653	28.5	21.4
January, 1946.....	98,002	19,454	19.9	15.7
February, "	106,295	16,831	15.8	12.9
March, "	125,474	21,228	16.9	14.7
April, "	130,062	25,505	19.6	17.2
May, "	130,206	28,522	21.9	19.6
June, "	115,432	23,654	20.5	21.5
July, "	106,429	23,776	22.3	23.6
August, "	99,379	22,175	22.3	24.2
September "	90,855	20,106	22.1	26.8
October "	91,504	22,952	25.1	26.9

Table III—Unplaced Ex-servicemen and Those Unplaced 15 Days or More
as at the End of the Month, October, 1945 to October, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Unplaced Ex-servicemen (1)	Ex-servicemen Unplaced 15 Days or More (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
October 31, 1945.....	40,780	13,977	34.3
November 30, "	46,503	20,775	44.7
December 31, "	45,974	27,887	60.7
January 31, 1946.....	59,861	37,364	62.4
February 28, "	72,305	50,286	69.5
March 31, "	83,029	61,018	73.5
April 30, "	81,207	61,292	75.5
May 31, "	72,370	52,722	72.9
June 30, "	61,168	44,587	72.9
July 31, "	54,735	37,765	69.0
August 31, "	49,526	33,504	67.6
September 30, "	46,147	31,062	67.3
October 31, "	44,854	27,854	62.1

Table IV--Number of Ex-Service Personnel Claiming Out-of-Work Benefits
and Number of Benefit Payments made, February to October, 1946

(Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Date	Live Claims as at End of Month	Benefit Payments During Last Week of Month
February, 1946.....	30,473	19,715
March, "	43,729	34,637
April, "	41,857	32,364
May, "	37,291	33,297
June, "	30,677	25,051
July, "	25,463	20,713
August, "	21,939	19,321
September, "	20,870	16,533
October, "	19,018	14,390

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

The Logging Industry

Canadian prosperity is dependent upon a high level of export trade. This means that logging,⁽¹⁾ an industry that is primary to two of Canada's most important export industries, lumber, and pulp and paper, is a most vital part of the Canadian economic structure.

Its importance goes beyond its position as a supplier of a basic industrial raw material. A definite correlation exists between conditions in the primary and secondary forest industries and the rise and fall of the national income. Further, as eastern Canada logging is carried on during the winter months, it serves to take up the winter slack in employment, in particular acting as a complement to agriculture.

This year, seasonal activity in logging began during October and another record cut has been forecast for the 1946-7 period. Production of pulpwood alone should exceed the ten million cord mark (last year's production was 9.3 million cords). Employment, which last year reached 170,000 should approach 200,000 at this year's peak.

The last three months have seen an influx of experienced woodsmen, of farmers, and of marginal labourers into the logging camps. National Employment Service reports indicate that many firms now have all the men they require at the moment. However, the heavy rate of turnover and provision for future needs keeps the number of unfilled vacancies in the industry at a high level. At November 14, the number of vacancies reported to employment offices numbered 43,700.

Employment now rising sharply--Logging employment in eastern Canada has been skyrocketing in the last few weeks. During October, new workers were entering the industry at the rate of 5,000 per week but the high rate of turnover common to logging camps meant that the net weekly gain to employment was less than 3,200. About 25 per cent of these workers were employed through National Employment Service offices and the remainder were taken on directly by the employers concerned. At October 1, 1946, employment in all branches of logging totalled 117,000, the majority of these being pulpwood loggers in Quebec and Ontario. Table I indicates the trend of employment during the past year, as well as the expansion the industry has undergone as a result of the war.

(1) In this analysis, all operations carried on in the woods are considered as part of the logging industry. This includes not only the felling and transporting of trees but also the production of some end products such as posts, hewn ties or mining timber.

Table I—Estimated Employment in the Canadian Logging Industry at Selected Dates

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour.)

Date	No. Employed
October 1, 1939.....	56,700
October 1, 1941.....	85,400
October 1, 1943.....	71,600
October 1, 1945.....	100,700
January 1, 1946.....	166,200
April 1, ".....	148,700
July 1, ".....	96,400
October 1, ".....	117,000

6,000 Ontario loggers strike during October—One of the most unusual strikes to occur this year, and very similar in pattern to the B.C. woodworkers' strike which took place early this summer, was that of some 6,000 Ontario loggers who were out from October 11 to November 2.

Most of the strikers were seasonal workers who had just arrived in the logging districts to begin work, and were distributed among 25 companies in two areas, the Lakehead and Timmins districts. The union concerned was the Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union, which is affiliated with the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners (TLC-AFL). The strikers represent about 20 per cent of total logging employment in Ontario.

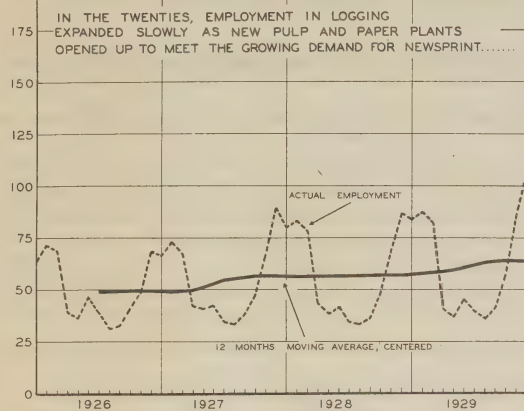
The terms of settlement, reached as a result of negotiations carried on between representatives of the operators and the unions concerned with the provincial minister of labour in Toronto, provided for a new wage schedule and improved camp conditions. Actually, the benefits which the workers derived from the strike were small. All the wage increases, with the exception of that pertaining to labourers, had been agreed upon before and approved by the Regional War Labour Board. However, the prestige and bargaining position of the union were greatly enhanced by the successful strike. The resulting loss to production has been estimated at equivalent to three weeks work and thus more loggers will be required for the balance of the cutting season to meet production quotas.

Production—The table below shows the annual value of the three principal products of woods operations. As can be seen, pulpwood now has become the most valuable single item, being slightly larger than the "logs and bolts" total. The difference between the total of the three items and the grand total of forestry production given in the table represents the value of several other items of forest production such as posts, wood for distillation, mining timber and so on.

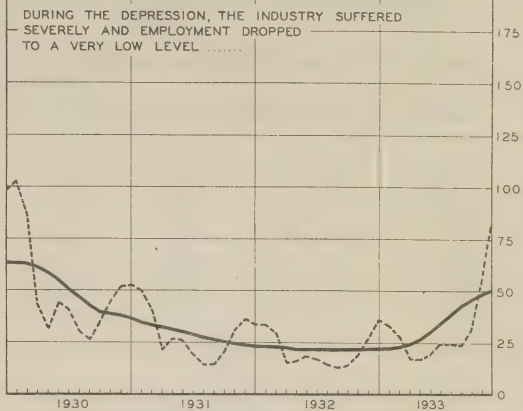
EMPLOYMENT IN THE CANADIAN LOGGING INDUSTRY

FROM 1926 TO 1947

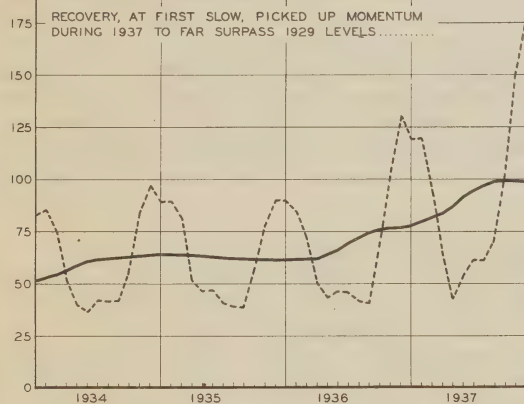
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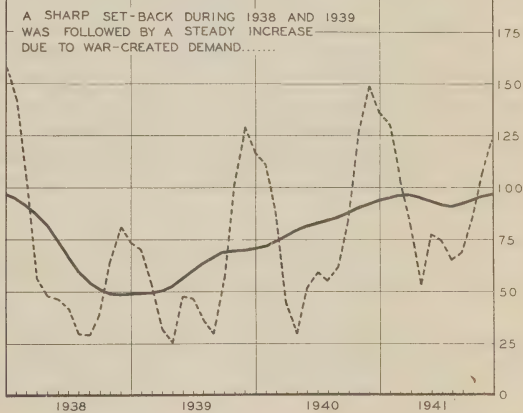
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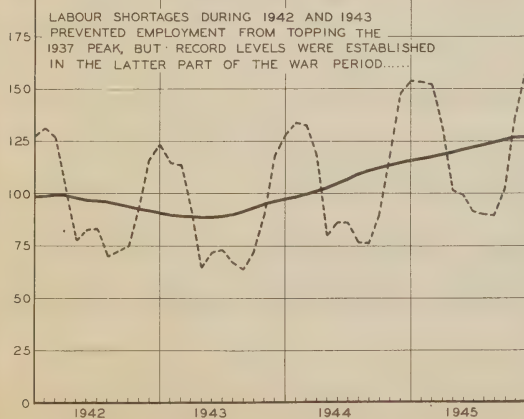
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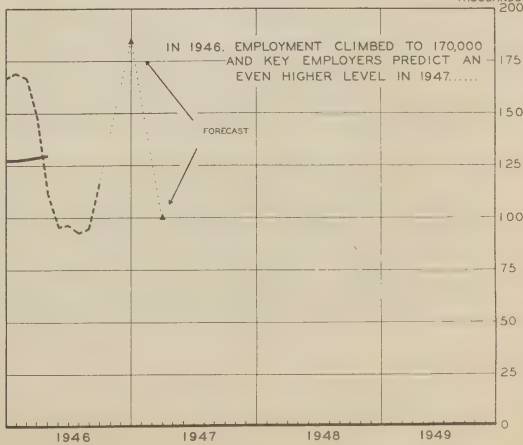


Table II--Value of Canadian Forestry Production for Selected Years 1926-44
(In Thousands of Dollars)

(Source: Census of Industry & Merchandising Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Date	Logs & Bolts	Pulpwood	Firewood	Total
1926.....	76.8	68.1	40.0	204.4
1929.....	79.3	76.1	41.8	219.6
1932.....	18.0	30.6	36.7	92.1
1935.....	34.1	41.2	31.9	115.5
1938.....	52.8	53.8	32.7	148.3
1941.....	86.5	88.2	26.7	213.2
1944.....	115.8	124.4	44.3	301.6

These statistics suggest two things in connection with the long term aspect of Canadian forestry production (a) that the lumber industry is usually harder hit by a business recession than the pulp and paper industry and (b) that pulpwood production has permanently ousted lumber logging as the most important branch of the logging industry. Up to 1931, the annual value of logs and bolts was always greater than that of pulpwood. The depression caused a greater proportionate drop in the production value of logs and bolts (the raw material of lumber mills), recovery was slower, and this section of the industry has never since regained its top position in production value. The value of firewood production has remained fairly constant over the long term, although labour shortages resulted in an extreme scarcity of this commodity during the war years.

Pulpwood price increase in United States--Recent OPA price increases, ranging from 50 cents to \$3.50 a cord, have lifted the price range of pulpwood in the United States to \$8.50-18.20 per cord.

This will be of particular benefit to Canadian producers, who in 1945 shipped 1.5 million cords to that country. However, had the American price not been raised, other countries would have been willing to take part of the Canadian product at better than the former U.S. price.

Exports--Table III summarizes Canada's exports of unmanufactured wood products during the last two years. As can be seen, exports so far this year have been well ahead of 1945, and this trend can be expected to continue for the rest of 1946. While export of the primary product still represents a considerable sum, the value of exports of secondary products, such as newsprint and lumber is far larger.

Canada's pulpwood exports now are going almost entirely to the United States. Previous to the outbreak of the war, however, this primary product was shipped to at least 10 different countries among which Germany, France and the United Kingdom were prominent besides the U.S.A. It is interesting to note that German imports of Canadian pulpwood increased sevenfold from 1937-9. After 1939, the United States became the sole purchaser of this product and the pre-war export pattern has not yet been resumed.

Table III—Canadian Logging Exports 1945-46.
(In Thousands of Dollars)

(Source: External Trade Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Type	Month of September		Nine Months Ending September	
	1945	1946	1945	1946
Logs.....	135	135	1,939	2,070
Timber (square).....	61	52	674	608
Pulpwood.....	2,702	2,608	17,230	20,985
Total.....	2,898	2,795	19,843	23,663

B.C. logging—The structure of the logging industry on the Pacific coast is totally different from that obtaining in all other sections of Canada. Not only are production methods different, the logs are transported to their destination by truck, rail or boat rather than by the river drive common to the east, but also, climate causes employment to follow a different seasonal pattern. In general, British Columbia logging is carried on independent of weather conditions, but two seasonal peaks in employment occur, one at the turn of the year and the other around May or June.

At the beginning of November, as Table II shows, the B.C. logging industry had obtained almost all the work force which it required. Demand right now is concentrated in the skilled labour and key personnel categories. No further additions of unskilled labour will be required unless a freeze-up occurs in the interior, where eastern Canadian logging methods are used.

Future prospects—The long term future of the Canadian logging industry is dependent on world-wide economic conditions and even a sound national plan for intelligent use of our forest resources cannot ensure stability in an industry geared to the export market.

The future may see Canada as a member of the Food and Agricultural Association of the United Nations, co-operating with the rest of the world in international control of world forest resources. In reference to this international aspect, Alvin H. Hansen, a leading American economist, says, "Forestry resources are of such a nature that it is particularly important to consider them in world terms. Action on an international scale will need to be taken to prevent waste and uneconomical use of the forest resources of the world." (2)

Such a policy, as part of the larger goal of world-wide full employment, would be aimed at stabilization of the Canadian forestry industries in an attempt to prevent a repetition of the violent price and employment fluctuations which took place in the last quarter century.

(2) America's Role in the World Economy. p. 91

Retail Trade

All-time employment high expected this year—This Christmas will see a larger labour force employed in Canadian retail stores than at any previous date.⁽¹⁾ At October 1, 1946, wage earner employment had reached last year's peak of 370,000 and with the staff additions contingent on this year's Christmas business a new high in employment will certainly be reached.

Business more active in 1946—In general, retail trade has been more active in 1946 than in 1945 despite the fact that last year's sales volume and employment were the highest on record.

During the first ten months of this year, employment has averaged 9 per cent above 1945. In the same period, retail sales have been running about 15 per cent higher and promise to eclipse last year's \$4.5 billion sales value.

Christmas placements lighter—Up to the end of November, reports from National Employment Service offices indicate that orders for Christmas help this year had been below 1945.

This could be due to either of two reasons (1) the stores have been able to build up larger and more efficient full-time staffs during the year or (2) employers are not making use of employment service facilities to the same extent as in 1945.

Trend of employment from 1939-46—Statistics available up to the time of writing do not record the seasonal boost in retail trade employment resulting from Christmas activity, but a rough estimate of the probable peak this year can be obtained by a study of the trend of previous years given in Table I. The January 1 figure is always the high point in the year.

Like sales, employment has been advancing steadily since 1939 and now is fully 100,000 above the 1939 figure. Further increases in employment have been forecast during 1947.

During normal times, the seasonal pattern of employment is somewhat different from that since 1939. On the average, from 1929-37, a slight recession took place after the Christmas peak, which was followed by an upswing beginning in April. A secondary employment peak was reached in July followed by a drop during August and September.

Table I—Employment in Retail Trade, 1939-46.
(In Thousands)

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Month	1939	1941	1943	1945	1946
January 1.....	246.3	276.6	334.4	348.5	369.3
April 1.....	255.3	293.4	281.3	326.0	345.1
July 1.....	253.5	295.2	286.0	321.3	356.1
October 1.....	261.6	310.4	295.4	329.6	368.2

(1) In this analysis, retail trade includes all establishments engaged chiefly in the sale of merchandise at retail. This covers not only the common type of retail store, but also such other outlets as filling stations, lumber yards and restaurants.

Slight decline in earnings—Per capita weekly earnings in retail trade declined slightly at October 1 from their September 1 level, dropping from \$27.04 to \$26.79. This drop culminated a steady increase since the beginning of the year, and is probably only seasonal in character.

The high proportion of women and the nature of the work are important factors in making average earnings in retail trade low when compared to other industries. To select a few examples at random - at October 1 the comparable figure for all manufacturing was \$33.18; for mining \$40.25; for transportation \$41.53 and for construction - \$32.09. However, there were some industries, such as services, and leather and its products, where per capita weekly earnings at October 1 were lower than in retail trade.

The steady uptrend in earnings which has taken place in the last few years of the war is shown in Table II below.

Table II—Per Capita Weekly Earnings in Retail Trade,
Selected Dates 1941-46,

(Source: Employment and Payroll Statistics Branch, D.B.S.)

Month	1941	1943	1945	1946
	\$	\$	\$	\$
January 1.....	x —	21.88	23.13	24.60
April 1.....	x —	23.14	24.26	26.00
July 1.....	21.44	23.42	25.01	26.67
October 1.....	21.22	23.25	25.14	26.79

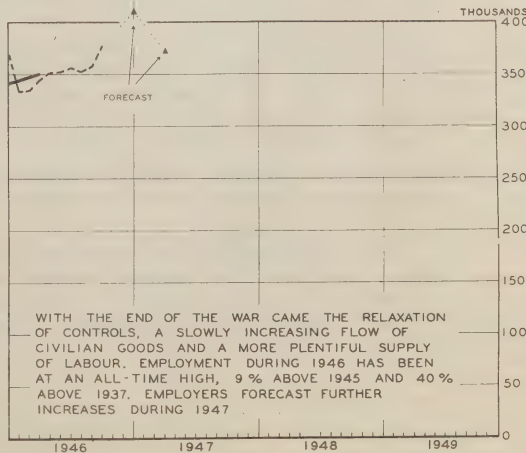
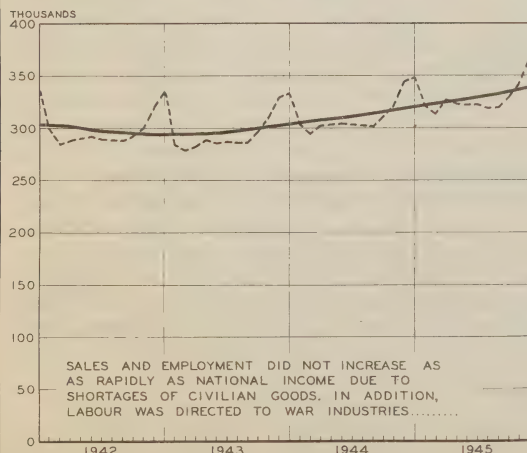
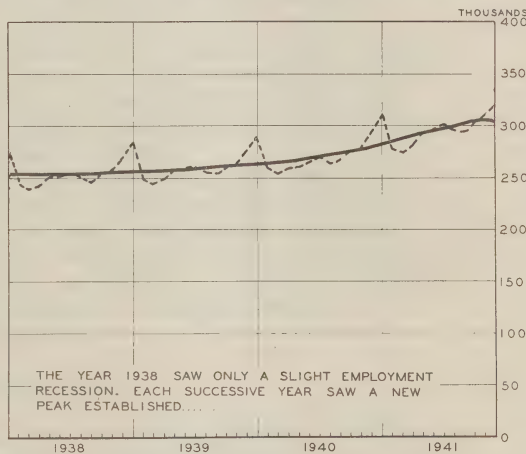
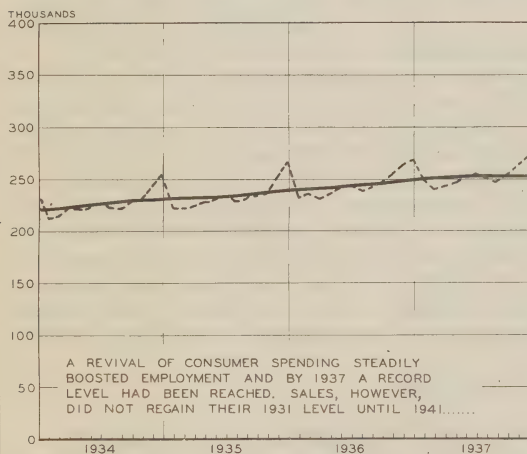
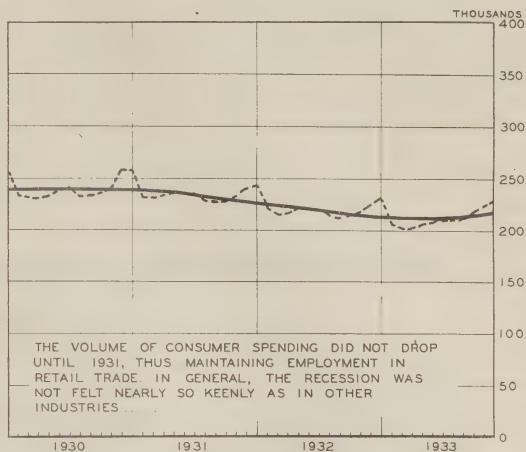
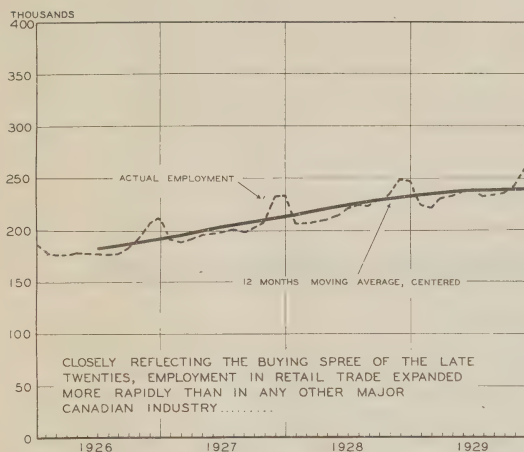
x Statistics not available for these dates.

Short term employment prospects—For 1947, retail trade prospects appear bright. The future will ssen the gradual ending of the sellers' market. Better quality goods will return to the counters and this will likely be followed by price adjustments. The resulting stimulation to consumer spending will probably lead to continued high production in consumer goods industries and to a higher level of investment in the economy as a whole.

Forecasts from leading departmental stores, whose employment trend follows that of all retail trade very closely, substantiate this viewpoint and predict a moderate expansion in employment during 1947. While the labour force will be larger, the number and quality of the applicants for sales work will also be higher, which will mean more intensive competition for the jobs available and a lower turnover of workers. In general, the interplay of all these factors will likely result in the return to a more normal and stable retail trade labour market.

EMPLOYMENT IN CANADIAN RETAIL TRADE

FROM 1926 TO 1947



SEASONAL VARIATIONS OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE AUTOMOBILE AND PARTS INDUSTRY

Introduction

The past two decades have witnessed the rapid growth of the automobile and parts industry. By 1939, the last pre-war year, this industry ranked fifth among all manufacturing industries in Canada according to the gross value of its products and provided jobs for an average of 22,500 workers. During 1943, the year of greatest wartime activity, employment averaged 46,000, more than double the pre-war level.

The automobile and parts industry has always been characterized, like the fashion trades, by noticeable seasonal variations in the demand for its final products. On the other hand, seasonal climatic conditions have scarcely disturbed the flow of its raw materials (rubber, steel, glass, leather, and hardwood), as is the case in the meat packing industry.

For the workers in the automobile and parts industry, the consequent seasonal fluctuations in production, employment, and earnings have always constituted an outstanding problem. Prior to the war, the average automobile worker was employed for only six to seven months of each year. About two-thirds of its workers were affected to some extent by this seasonality. Relative to other industries, therefore, the extent of the seasonal employment swing in the automobile and parts industry has been considerable.

Extent of Seasonality

During the period 1928 to 1934, there was an average seasonal decline in employment of about 22 per cent and an average seasonal expansion of 26 per cent—a total range of variation of 48 per cent about the average level of employment. This range was reduced slightly to 44 per cent in the following period, 1935 to 1939, when the average decline was 27 per cent and the average increase 17 per cent. The war period, of course, witnessed an almost complete disappearance of seasonality. From 1940 to 1944, the range was only 8 per cent with an average decline of 5 per cent and an average increase of 3 per cent.

The volume of seasonal unemployment caused by this industry in any month is measured by the difference between employment in the particular month and at the seasonal peak.

During the years 1928 to 1934, the lowest level of employment on the average was 39 per cent below that at the peak; in other words, about 7,400 workers were seasonally unemployed for one month or more insofar as this industry was concerned. From 1935 to 1939, employment at its lowest level

fell 37 per cent below the peak, in other words, about 9,400 workers were seasonally unemployed for varying periods. The increase was due to the generally higher level of employment in the second period. During the war years, the lowest level of employment on the average was only about 7 per cent below that at the peak; in other words, only about 2,800 workers were seasonally unemployed at one time or another. It is obvious that insofar as these workers are able to shift to jobs in other industries their period of seasonal unemployment is shortened.

In Table I below are presented "normal" seasonal indices of employment in this industry.⁽¹⁾ The chart on the next page presents these indices graphically.

Table I--Average Seasonal Indices of Employment
in the Automobile and Parts Industry

(Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S.)

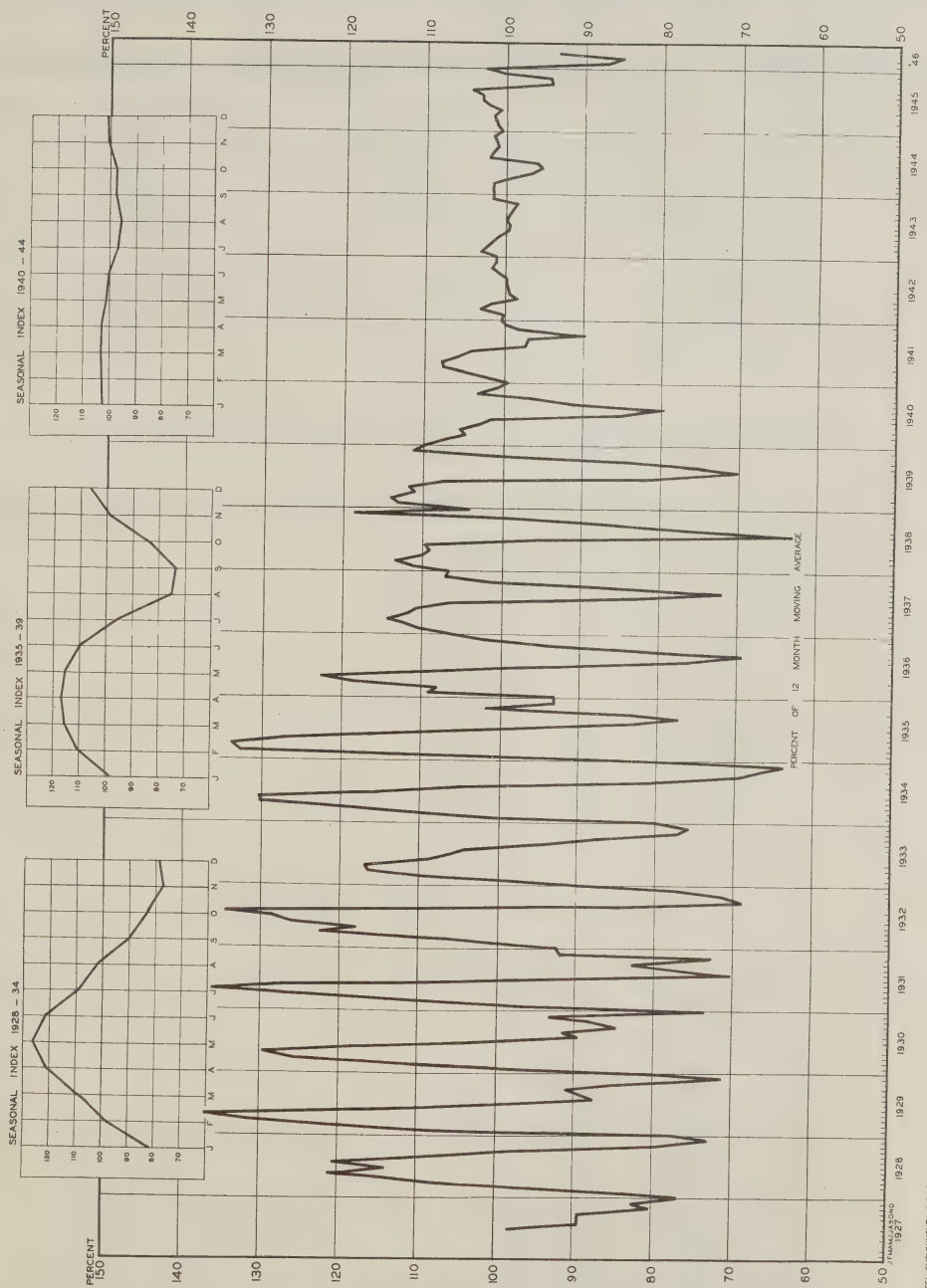
Month		1928-1934	1935-1939	1940-1944
January	1.....	81.9	98.2	102.2
February	1.....	98.4	110.5	102.6
March	1.....	109.3	115.4	103.1
April	1.....	121.7	117.0	102.8
May	1.....	126.4	115.9	101.1
June	1.....	121.7	110.0	100.1
July	1.....	109.0	95.8	96.6
August	1.....	102.0	74.8	95.5
September	1.....	90.1	73.5	97.5
October	1.....	83.5	83.9	97.3
November	1.....	77.6	99.0	100.4
December	1.....	78.4	106.0	100.8

Pattern of Seasonality

An examination of the seasonal pattern during the first period (1928 to 1934) shows that employment began to increase seasonally during December and then surged upward rapidly in the first four months of the new year to reach a peak early in May. The basis for this phase of the seasonal pattern was, of course, the pattern of demand which was crystallized by the holding of the annual automobile show in January. In the few months following this show, activity is always intense as a large volume of orders appears. The seasonal down-turn came in May when a sharp steady drop commenced that did not end until early in November. This was a time of low demand and therefore of re-tooling and consequent low activity.

(1) In studying seasonal fluctuations of employment in any industry, the first step must be to calculate seasonal indices by some one method. In Table I, "normal" seasonal indices have been calculated from the employment data of the Employment and Payrolls Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The method has been to compute a centered 12-month moving average and then to express the original data as a percentage of the appropriate centered moving average figure. These percentage deviations were then arrayed by months. Inspection showed that a changing seasonal pattern existed. Three different periods, within each of which the seasonal pattern was fairly consistent, were observed. For each of these periods, a modified mean of the percentage deviations was calculated and this mean was multiplied by a correction factor in order to arrive at a final "normal" or average seasonal index for the period.

SEASONAL VARIATIONS IN EMPLOYMENT AUTOMOBILE AND PARTS INDUSTRY



SOURCE: EMPLOYMENT AND PAROLLS BRANCH - D. R. S.

Table II—Unreferred Applicants by Age Group and by Sex, With Percentage Registered as Unskilled, as at September 26, 1946

(Source: Forms UIC 757-759)

Age Group	Male	Per Cent Unskilled	Female	Per Cent Unskilled	Total	Per Cent Unskilled
TOTAL.....	101,370	42	28,333	18	129,703	36
Under 20.....	8,172	62	4,943	21	13,115	47
20 - 45	60,565	38	20,015	17	80,580	32
46 - 65	19,371	38	3,025	16	22,396	35
Over 65	13,262	54	350	12	13,612	53

Table III—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified And Applicants Registered, by Province, During September, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies		Average Weekly Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
CANADA.....	42,323	100	37,389	100
Maritime Provinces.....	2,082	5	2,921	8
Quebec.....	10,833	26	9,237	25
Ontario.....	18,440	43	13,922	37
Prairie Provinces.....	5,579	13	6,410	17
British Columbia.....	5,389	13	4,899	13

Table IV—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Referrals by Sex, From September, 1945 to September, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Month	Male	Female	Total
September, 1945.....	31,653	9,303	40,956
October ".....	31,197	8,924	40,121
November ".....	28,238	8,669	36,907
December ".....	16,198	5,448	21,646
January, 1946.....	12,949	6,795	19,744
February ".....	12,924	6,725	19,649
March ".....	14,547	7,400	21,947
April ".....	18,742	7,286	26,028
May ".....	20,224	7,683	27,907
June ".....	19,416	7,868	27,284
July ".....	18,693	7,580	26,273
August ".....	17,310	7,915	25,225
September ".....	17,830	8,468	26,298

Seasonal variations of employment in the industry are primarily due, then, to natural seasonal fluctuations in demand. However, despite the fact that the demand for automobiles fluctuates during the year, is it necessary that production should so closely follow these variations in demand? Production varies with demand, not only because the holding of large inventories is extremely risky as designs change so rapidly, but also because it is very expensive to hold stocks of completed vehicles due to their bulk, the expensive storage facilities needed, and the high insurance charges involved. Output, therefore, must closely follow demand.

Another aspect of the seasonal variation in demand is the consequent need for re-tooling at frequent intervals. An executive of one firm stated that during the re-tooling period throughout July and August, one-third of its employees were laid-off for the full 8 weeks, one-third for 4 weeks, and only one-third worked all the time. It should be noted that these proportions refer to the highest level of employment reached by that firm during the year.

Automobile Parts Industry

The seasonal nature of employment in the assembling plants is necessarily reflected throughout the "parts" component of the industry. These "feeder" plants are entirely dependent for orders upon the automobile manufacturers. The latter are accustomed to giving their orders only shortly before the respective parts are required. This amounts to a hand-to-mouth method of buying and forces the "parts" producers to plan on a month-to-month basis.

All of the factors responsible for seasonality of employment in the assembly plants also operate, therefore, against the producers of parts. The effect of a large and frequently changing variety of design is, of course, that the manufacturers of parts cannot take the risk of carrying stocks. Nevertheless, the expense and risk of building up inventories does not operate as strongly in the "parts" industry. Most parts are not so bulky and deteriorate much less than automobiles when stored. This does not mean that "parts" producers like to produce for inventory. As an executive of one firm stated:

"Our production schedules are interlocked with those of automobile manufacturers; if one of them goes on strike, we are immediately affected for we dare not produce for stock too far ahead since change is the essence of automobile production and we might be left 'holding the bag'. We cannot look ahead more than one month. If we get a rush order, we put it in on overtime and try to get additional staff for an extra shift". Parts manufacturers must ever be ready to produce at top capacity with very short notice. To the extent that peak capacity operation is not maintained, the overhead expenses of such plants increase. This is the main problem facing management in this sector of the industry.

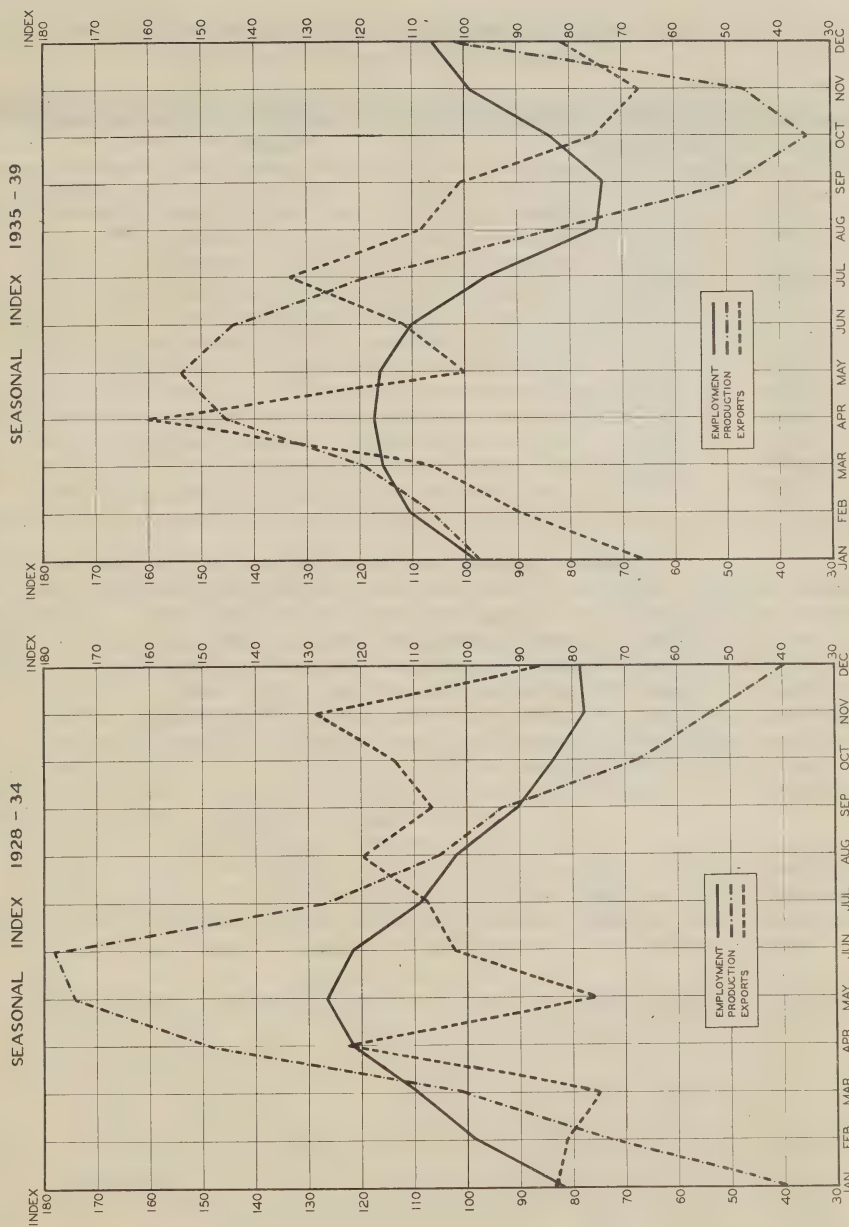
Prospects of Stabilization

Although various methods of stabilizing employment in the automobile and parts industry have been advocated, it is most unlikely that the seasonal variations can be completely eliminated no matter what steps are taken.

In some industries, exports can be relied upon to offset the irregularity of domestic sales thus making possible a more continuous rate of production and employment. In the light of this condition, those who have little knowledge of the automobile and parts industry assume that Canadian automobile exports to the southern hemisphere should have a stabilizing effect on employment.

This, however, is not the case as is apparent in Table II. The foreign demand for this product also reaches its peak in the spring. In the case of this industry, therefore, exports tend to intensify the spring peak rather than

SEASONAL TRENDS IN EMPLOYMENT, PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS AUTOMOBILE AND PARTS INDUSTRY



to offset it.

Table III—Average Seasonal Indices of Production
in the Automobile and Parts Industry

(Source: Total units produced, Census of Industry Branch, D.B.S.)

Month		1928-1934	1935-1938
January	1.....	39.0	97.2
February	1.....	73.2	106.0
March	1.....	101.1	119.1
April	1.....	149.2	145.2
May	1.....	174.2	153.9
June	1.....	178.1	143.9
July	1.....	127.0	119.2
August	1.....	105.1	83.6
September	1.....	93.2	48.8
October	1.....	67.2	34.7
November	1.....	53.6	46.8
December	1.....	39.1	101.6

In this connection the executive of one company stated:

"I do not think that automobile producers can do any more towards stabilizing employment. Employment in our own company is less irregular due to our policy of attempting to produce for exports when domestic demand is at its lowest level. Unfortunately, however, the peak of export demand coincides with the peak of domestic demand and a program of producing for export during the troughs of domestic requirements is not entirely feasible. When the advertisements for a new model come out in magazines, the export buyers place their orders concurrently with domestic buyers. If the company waited until they were in the slack domestic demand period, models would be six to seven months old. Competition in sales defeats regularization".

The president of another company commented:

"It is impossible to completely iron out the peaks and valleys of employment. There are a number of circumstances beyond our control: re-tooling period and irregularity of consumer demand, both domestic and export. Our period of high production for the domestic market coincides with our period of high export demand".

"The reason why our peak export market demand coincides with our period of high domestic demand - fall and spring - is that in Australia for example, winter is their best season. Under normal conditions, when we change our model annually, the new cars come out in the early fall. There is an immediate high demand for them. We produce at capacity. By December, demand falls off and our show-rooms get crowded up. We cannot manufacture for inventory to any great extent. It takes quite a large area to store automobiles. We curtail production and employment falls off somewhat by January 1. The really heavy buying season begins in February. To meet this demand we utilize our full capacity for four or five months (February to June). Export demand coincides with this period".

It has been suggested that vehicles need not be completely assembled all at once. Certain standardized parts alter little from year to year. Work could, therefore, be done on such parts in preparation for the following year's production during the slack period. The drawback to this arrangement, however,

is the fact that re-tooling is the main activity during the slack season and would likely preclude the possibility of much, if any, production.

Organized short-time is another method advocated to reduce unemployment in this industry during the slack period. The seasonal swings of employment, however, are so great that it is almost impossible to counteract them to any great extent through the curtailment of hours worked. In 1934, in the assembly division of the industry in the United States, there was a 22 per cent decline in average hours worked from the highest to the lowest month, with a 48 per cent decline in the number of workers employed during the same period. Between April and September of 1934, automobile firms made more than three-quarters of their slack season curtailment by laying off workers and less than one-quarter by reducing the time of operatives.⁽¹⁾

Seniority has been recommended by the United Automobile Workers union as the basis for another means of overcoming the employment effects of seasonality. That is, when the seasonal drop in production commences, those workers with the shortest term of service would be dismissed first and those with the longest term of service would be the first to be rehired. This would have the effect of regulating the system of seasonal hiring and lay-off. Obviously, however, a measure such as this cannot solve the problem. It can only act as a palliative.

The most practical and effective approach would be to tackle the problem directly, i.e. at the consumers' end. We have seen that the transfer of the automobile show from the spring to the fall resulted in slightly less violent fluctuations in buying. If new models were introduced by different companies at different intervals during the year, the result would probably be a stabilization of purchases to a much greater extent. Seasonal variations in prices, however, would result due to the costs involved in the frequent changing of models, and this is one development which the manufacturers have tried to avoid and overcome. Staggering the introduction of new models throughout the year would also be impractical because of the competitive nature of the industry. In such a highly competitive industry, producers could not afford to delay the production of new models if they were to obtain a fair share of the market.

It is possible that the peak of demand might be smoothed and employment regularized if advertising campaigns were to start earlier in the year and if more publicity was used at the end of the season. The result would be to smooth out or extend the buying season. Nevertheless, the increase in costs in advertising might outweigh the results.

Finally, a plan long advocated by the unions of this industry as a means whereby job insecurity could be considerably reduced, if not abolished, is the guaranteed annual wage. This proposal, however, raises problems for both management and union. Since such a plan would be based upon a steady rate of production, it means that management would have to solve all the problems involved in the holding of large inventories. The union, for their part, would need "to persuade the high seniority men, who benefit most from the peak production periods of overtime work, to agree to a system of work spreading".⁽²⁾ In the face of these difficulties and due to the increase in take-home pay which occurred during the war, organized labour now is also in favour of a program aimed at maintaining and increasing this relatively high level of take-home pay. If this objective can be achieved, and if adequate social security measures can be brought into operation, then much of the real insecurity of income amongst workers in the automobile and parts industry could disappear.

(1) Monthly Labour Review, Vol. 42, Page 539.

(2) Problems and Policies of Labour and Management in the Automobile Industry, J. Grimshaw, 1946.

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following regional analysis deals with the current labour market situation in each of the five regions, Maritime, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie, and Pacific. The steady slackening of labour demand as winter approaches is the dominant note from coast to coast. As vacancies drop in number applicants climb.

Table I—Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants at November 28, by Region
(Source: Advance Report on Labour Demand and Supply, Research & Statistics Br.)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies				Unplaced Applicants			
	Male	Female	Total	Per Cent	Male	Female	Total	Per Cent
Maritime.....	4,000	2,000	6,000	4.9	18,000	2,000	20,000	13.9
Quebec.....	33,000	14,000	47,000	38.8	26,000	9,000	35,000	24.5
Ontario.....	25,000	19,000	44,000	36.4	31,000	12,000	43,000	30.1
Prairie.....	15,000	3,000	18,000	14.9	20,000	5,000	25,000	17.5
Pacific.....	4,000	2,000	6,000	4.9	16,000	4,000	20,000	13.9
Canada.....	81,000	40,000	121,000	100.0	111,000	32,000	143,000	100.0

Maritime Region

Labour demand has fallen steadily over the month in every industrial classification except trade which is showing the usual seasonal upswing for temporary employment.

Lumber industry active--Nevertheless, considerable activity is taking place in the lumber industry. Registered vacancies, though decreasing, greatly exceed registered applicants. There is hesitation on the part of some operators in accepting young men with no experience, but as more camps are opened and the usual turnover of labour occurs it is likely that inexperienced as well as experienced workers will be readily absorbed.

Labour shortage in mining continues--Nova Scotian mining has been operating steadily with slight increases in production. In New Brunswick, strip mining continues at full capacity. There are indications that the output will exceed that of 1945. Vacancies in both the New Brunswick and Nova Scotia industry are for the first class miners. Shaft mine operators in New Brunswick suffer a shortage of hand pick miners that seriously handicaps production and

have orders in clearance stating that Nova Scotia or western Canada certificates will be accepted in lieu of New Brunswick certificates. There are few applicants qualified to fill the vacancies. Dominion Coal's training school, however, is making good progress in fitting men for their certificates.

Seasonal slowdown in construction--Due to fine, warm weather, building construction has progressed where materials have been available, but cold weather and snow will tend to restrict most residential construction. Highway and street construction now has ended for the year. There has also been a decline in construction employment through the shortage of certain skilled trades. In Halifax, carpenters and labourers were laid-off because of the lack of bricklayers.

Heavy winter port activity expected--The late closing of St. Lawrence shipping sets back port activity at Halifax and Saint John. Work along the waterfront now is picking up and a good winter season is anticipated. Freight movement is already heavy in spite of the box car shortage. Sufficient manpower will be available to handle the traffic.

Quebec Region

Vacancies follow seasonal downtrend--Vacancies in Quebec, following the national trend, have fallen. Logging demand is down as men are being supplied to the camps. About 80,000 men are estimated to be in the woods on lumber and pulpwood operations and the manpower complement shows a substantial increase over previous years.

Strike continues at Noranda--The strike in gold-copper at Noranda over wages and the check-off has been front-page news. No settlement has been reached. Experienced miners are being referred to the industry but lack of housing accommodation in most mining areas has proved a barrier to any considerable movement of labour.

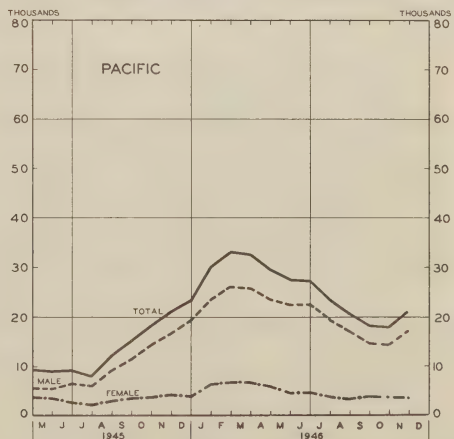
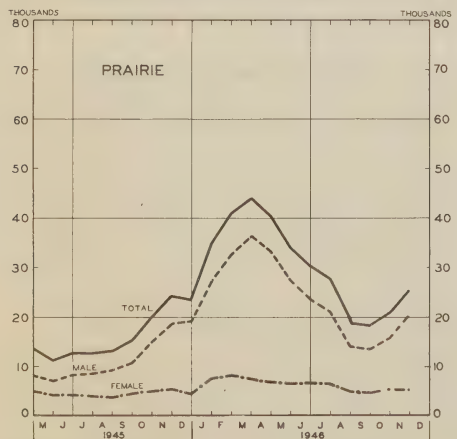
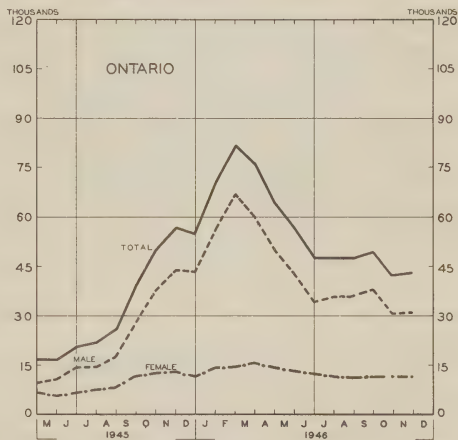
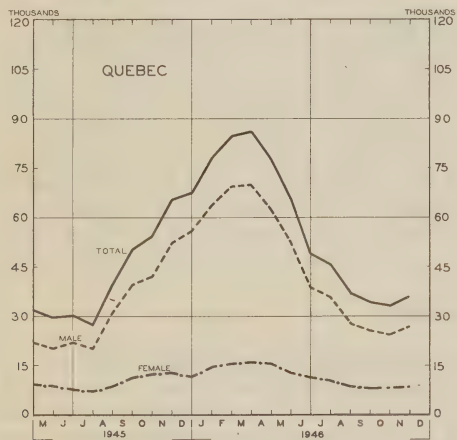
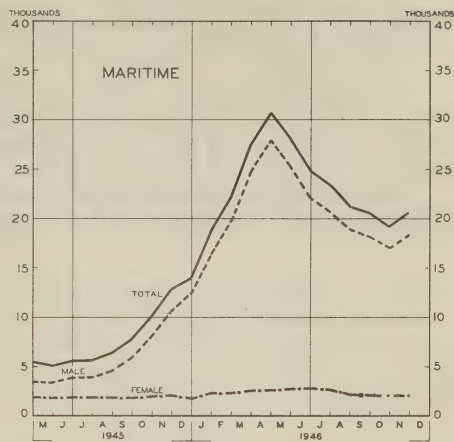
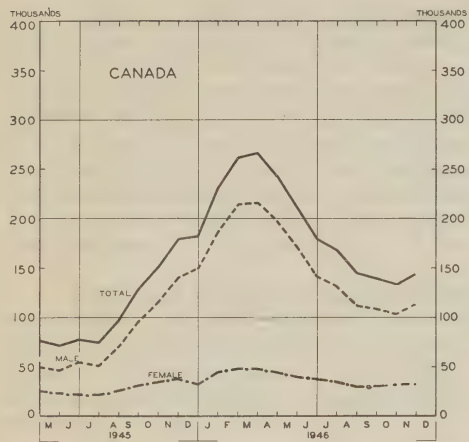
Manufacturing shows slow recovery from strike wave--Heavy manufacturing has shown little buoyancy in spite of the erasing of handicapping strikes. Both lack of material and lack of orders are slowing activity and forcing lay-offs. Even in the light manufacturing field it has been difficult in many instances to maintain production and employment. Raw material shortages have affected textile employment. Reduced hours and small lay-offs have been common. The scarcity of labour in the industry keeps up, although there is the possibility of a decided and rapid change. Persistent rumours of a growing buyer resistance in the retail and wholesale textile trade is worrying the industry. For the first time in a long period buyers are cancelling orders.

Steady level of employment for women--There has been a significant steadiness in employment opportunities for women instead of the usual seasonal decline. There has been no increase in applicants. The maintenance of activity in the trade, business, service and factory fields is thus reflected.

REGIONAL UNPLACED APPLICANTS

AS REPORTED BY THE

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



Ontario Region

Industry makes slow comeback from strike effects—The termination of all labour disputes in Ontario during November will contribute to a resurgence in the demand for labour as materials flow to industry. Firms are recalling staff previously laid-off. Yet it will be the end of December or January before benefits of full production are felt, and even this promise of a return to pre-strike conditions was threatened by the soft coal strike in the United States. There has been a sharp decrease in vacancies reported for heavy labour, largely due to the usual winter slackening of demand. Vacancies for factory help are also down as labour released from seasonal occupations fills a good part of the need.

Peak employment in logging—Employment in logging is reaching a peak. Most camps now have succeeded in obtaining their full quota of men. In spite of predictions to the contrary, more men have been available for logging than in the preceding few years and a high percentage of the applicants have worked previously in the woods. Demand for pulpwood cutters is great and the labour turnover in this field remains high.

Female workers in short supply—There is an overall shortage of female workers, with the most acute situation existing in Toronto, Kitchener and Galt. In the areas reporting a surplus of women for local requirements, married women who are not available for work outside their local office area form a good part of the excess. The concern voiced in some cities regarding the effect of the 1947 income tax regulations on employed married women is being met in Hamilton. A detailed chart has been prepared to show the change in the amount of payments. The difference in the payment is less than most of the women had believed and as a result many who had stated their intention of quitting work in the new year have changed their minds.

Prairie Region

Light demand for farm labour - few applicants—Demand for farm labour is light throughout the region. Applicants are few except for those in the older age group who are often not acceptable to employers. The majority of young and middle aged farm workers applying for work prefer employment in the woods or other industries for the winter.

Substantial flow of workers to woods employment—There has been an exceptionally brisk movement of men to woods camps in northwestern Ontario and eastern Manitoba, with the result that several employers now are making sharp downward revisions in orders. A large number of workers is still required, however, both to take care of ordinary replacements and to fill camps which have not been accessible during the freeze-up period and will be opened in the near future. Some employers are making very careful selection of workers and turning down applicants who would have been considered good material in previous years. Operators report that the number of men in camps now is well above the same date last year.

Despite lay-offs because of seasonal inactivity employment in residential, in industrial, and in public construction still remains at a reasonably high level. In those places where weather permits and the supply of building material, while not ample, will suffice, work is continuing. Otherwise, structures are being housed in and there will be no work done on them until spring. Municipal public works are at a standstill and will remain so until

spring. Because of this, registration in unskilled labour will likely be increased although some of the men will find casual employment on snow removal.

Demand met in meat packing plants - some lay-offs expected--Meat packing plants are fully staffed. Some are starting lay-offs quite a bit earlier than in previous years. Swift Canadian and Burns have both released male employees because of the shortage of cattle and hog shipments and Canada Packers has decided to revert the entire staff to one shift and will let several hundred employees go.

Pacific Region

Winter slump in activity sets in--The winter lull in employment has become noticeable in the Pacific region. Primary industry which is counted on for a buoyant effect on the labour market is settling back into a period of inactivity. To swell the numbers of applicants, workers freed from seasonal employment on the Prairies have been moving to the coast.

Demand tapers off following seasonal downtrend--Workers are being released from agriculture. Seasonal harvesting in the Fraser Valley is completed and the Okanagan has packed away the best fruit crop in its history. Logging has reached the saturation point insofar as the absorption of unskilled labour. The influx of workers from outside the region has filled openings. Demand fell off also, as camps at higher levels closed because of snow conditions and as other camps prepared for the approaching Christmas shutdown.

Vacancies exceed applicants in mining--Mining is one of the few industries which offers more jobs than there are men applying. Coal mining continued to experience a stringent labour shortage. However, a slight change is noticeable with the number of entrants into the industry being higher than the number leaving. Now that fewer vacancies are available in logging there should be fewer separations in coal mining. There are still gold mines tied up by strikes, although many have returned to production on settlement of the dispute with their own group of employees. The problem of labour shortage may arise as it is probable that many underground workers who are otherwise engaged at present may not wish to return to mining.

Steel shortages still felt in manufacturing--In manufacturing, recovery from the effects of the steel strike is slow. Shipyards now are receiving limited quantities of steel and are calling men back to work. Even so, the handicap of slow deliveries of materials is strongly felt. Many men are registered for shipyard work. Metal and engineering plants are becoming increasingly active as more steel becomes available. Demand for skilled machinists and for unskilled labour should increase as the manufacture of new equipment for the lumber industry expands.

A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

A Key to the Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in thirty-eight selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in the area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the seriousness of unemployment in each by means of the ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed. This ratio, as we have stated previously, is a crude measure evaluating short-term relative levels of unemployment.

The total labour force figure, including as it does, wage and salary workers, employers, self-employed, and unpaid family workers would be preferable to wage and salary workers employed as a ratio base. It would give a truer statement of the movement from employed status to unemployed status without reflecting movements not resulting in unemployment (e.g. a salary or a wage worker becoming self-employed). However, until labour force figures are available, the ratio base will be an estimate of the number of wage and salary workers employed in the area.

Unplaced applicants are workers who are seeking jobs through registration with the employment service. The figure of unplaced applicants will underestimate the number unemployed by the number of workers who seek work independently of the employment service. However, since it is probable that the unemployed will register with the local employment office when jobs are difficult to find and will find work on their own initiative, to a certain extent, without registering when jobs are plentiful, the unemployment ratio may understate unemployment slightly in good times while giving a fairly accurate picture in bad times, especially in work covered by unemployment insurance.

After we have reached a measure of the unemployment in an area we must have some idea as to the meaning of the measure. In a dynamic economy, at any one moment there will always be some workers who are not employed. Some will be changing jobs, some will have just left school and not yet found a place in the labour force, some in seasonal occupations will work only part of the year. We can classify levels of unemployment by a comparison with past levels, and designate the labour situation in the different areas by the group rating under which they come, as follows:

Group I - Areas in which over 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties".

Group II - Areas in which between 150 and 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III - Areas in which 50 to 150 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV - Areas in which under 50 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Slight, that is, in general it is that which would exist under conditions of full employment according to the experience of the years 1943 and 1944.

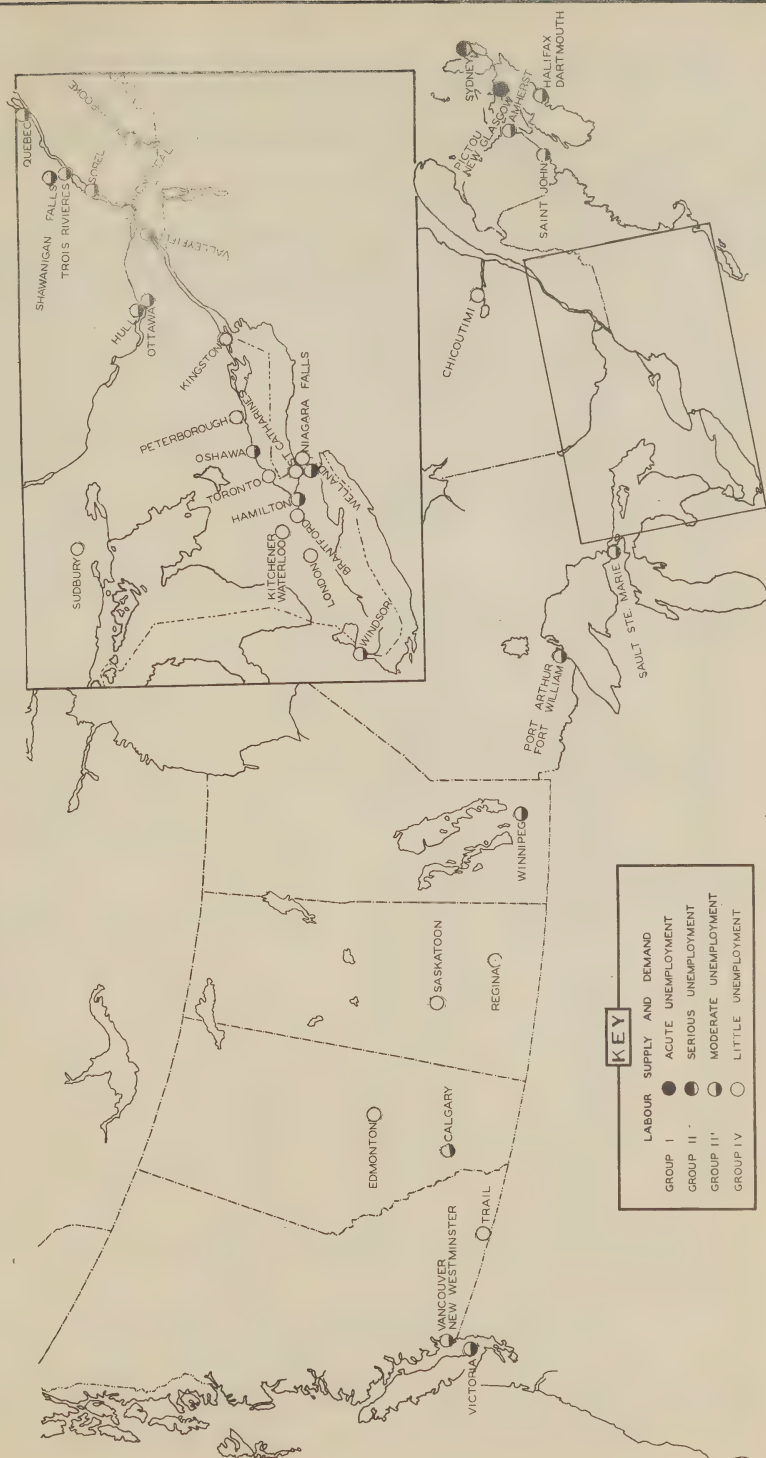
On the other hand we may desire more information than whether unemployment in an area is acute, serious, moderate or slight. The area tables present additional material relevant to the current labour demand and supply picture.

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Jobs available during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but should indicate the trend of labour demand in comparison with figures for previous periods.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer to the employment service.

"Unplaced applicants", at any one date, includes "unconfirmed referrals" and "unreferred applicants". The term "unconfirmed referrals" covers those workers who are referred to jobs, but whose acceptance or rejection has not been confirmed. "Unreferred applicants" are those workers who are not, at the moment, referred to any job. As we said above, the number of unplaced applicants will understate the number of unemployed by the number of workers who seek work independently of the employment service. It should, in comparison with figures for previous periods, indicate the trend of labour supply. Those workers seeking part-time work, or who are working and also seeking subsidiary employment or a change of employment through the employment service, are not included under the term "applicants".

A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT DECEMBER 1, 1946



KEY		LABOUR SUPPLY AND DEMAND
GROUP I	●	ACUTE UNEMPLOYMENT
GROUP II	◐	SERIOUS UNEMPLOYMENT
GROUP III	◑	MODERATE UNEMPLOYMENT
GROUP IV	○	LITTLE UNEMPLOYMENT

Table I—Index to Areas Analyzed in this Section with Comparable Ratings for Two Selected Previous Dates

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		Sept. 26, 1946	Oct. 31, 1946	Nov. 28, 1946
51	New Glasgow & Pictou.....	I	I	I
51	Sydney (a).....	II	II	II
69	Windsor.....	II	II	III
55	Quebec (b).....	III	III	III
53	Hull.....	III	III	III
49	Amherst.....	III	III	III
57	Valleyfield.....	I	III	III
63	Oshawa.....	II	III	III
67	Welland.....	III	III	III
57	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
51	Saint John.....	III	III	III
55	Shawinigan Falls.....	III	III	III
73	Vancouver (e).....	III	III	III
59	Fort William & Port Arthur....	III	III	III
57	Sorel.....	III	III	III
49	Halifax.....	III	III	III
71	Calgary (d).....	IV	III	III
59	Hamilton.....	III	III	III
65	Sault Ste Marie.....	III	III	III
63	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
69	Winnipeg.....	IV	III	III
73	Victoria.....	IV	IV	III
53	Chicoutimi.....	III	IV	IV
65	St. Catharines.....	IV	IV	IV
71	Saskatoon.....	IV	IV	IV
71	Edmonton.....	IV	IV	IV
73	Trail.....	IV	IV	IV
67	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	IV
69	Regina.....	IV	IV	IV
61	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
61	London.....	IV	IV	IV
53	Montreal (e).....	IV	IV	IV
63	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV
65	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
67	Toronto (f).....	IV	IV	IV
55	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
59	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
61	Kitchener.....	IV	IV	IV

(a) Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.

(b) Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

(c) Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

(d) Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

(e) Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Point-aux-Trembles, St. Paul l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

(f) Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

Item	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)	50	46	55	116	91	131	70	65	27
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	134,818	139,654	156,295	35	17	71	1,232	1,226	3,227
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	165,862	190,004	-	87	126	-	1,910	3,010
3. Total jobs reported during month	-	305,516	346,299	-	104	197	-	3,136	6,237
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	74,394	117,758	-	43	124	-	845	1,659
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	104,503	70,650	-	149	57	-	1,124	1,059
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	108,702	134,818	130,376	12	35	44	1,021	1,232	3,114
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	134,126	142,200	129,427	300	390	311	2,750	2,957	756
% female.....	23.6	21.8	25.3	22.7	25.9	41.5	14.5	14.6	21.6
% veterans.....	33.4	32.5	21.5	48.0	51.8	28.6	42.3	41.8	49.2
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	20.8	21.8	7.8	40.0	46.9	17.0	26.3	20.3	10.1
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	122,806	129,703	99,665	274	367	354	2,605	2,813	369
% under 20 years.....	11.0	10.1	-	5.8	5.4	-	16.7	19.8	-
% 20 - 45 "	60.2	62.1	-	68.6	74.4	-	62.7	61.1	-
% 45 - 60 "	18.0	17.3	-	17.9	14.2	-	14.8	13.5	-
% over 60 "	10.8	10.5	-	7.7	6.0	-	5.8	5.6	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	149,086	226,302	-	186	357	-	2,170	2,815
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	291,286	355,729	-	576	668	-	5,127	3,571
% referred.....	-	39.9	45.7	-	23.4	32.0	-	32.8	76.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	146,418	134,126	153,162	382	300	473	2,955	2,750	1,236
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	2,915	2,869	2,726	-	3,300	3,600	-	42,100	45,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	33.13	32.08	-	-	-	-	29.95	28.69
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	30,570	19,643	-	22	2	-	134	180

Note: -Figures for Canada re wage and salary workers are in thousands.
X Figures subject to revision.

Area Studies

The following individual studies of thirty-eight selected local areas present aspects of the current situation which are not reflected in the statistical material.

Amherst

Agricultural labour requirements are negligible because of the season. It is unlikely that there will be any substantial demand for loggers until December, and sufficient applicants are available locally. Local output of mines is increasing but no labour is required.

Employment in the iron and steel and textiles industries is curtailed by lack of basic supplies and materials. The most drastic change in employment since the war has taken place in the Canadian Car and Foundry Company which now is operating as a rolling mill, employing fewer than 100 men, compared to the war-time peak of approximately 3,000. Textile plants are fully staffed and iron and steel manufacturing is apparently on a sound footing. The new salt refining plant being constructed for Maritime Industries Limited will provide work for many men when production starts about January 15, besides providing contracts for the iron and steel manufacturing plant.

Construction on private housing is making very slow progress.

Halifax

While applicants outnumber vacancies by about three to one, employment opportunities will soon improve once the port enters its busy winter season. Until the winter port season commences, the number of vacancies for seamen will remain low. Any demand for longshoremen at present is easily met.

Shipyards are all quite busy and sufficient work is on hand to maintain a high level of employment for some time to come. Fall fishing now is at its peak and while no fishermen are required, some skilled men and women are still needed by fish processing plants. Male help is more than adequate to supply all demands in the manufacturing industry, but demand for women workers is very high with few applicants available. Female demand is concentrated in the bakeries, confectioneries, and textile plants.

Many qualified bricklayers are needed for the construction of the Camp Hill Military Hospital. Material for private homes is in short supply and progress is very slow.

Item	New Glasgow and Pictou				Sydney				Saint John			
	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945		Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945		Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	
Ratio of Unemployment, end of month, (no of Unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....												
Jobs:												
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	399	408	170		238	216	85		95	92	56	
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	58	47	161		252	366	797		560	655	1,083	
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	447	967		-	762	1,041		-	1,108	1,640	
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	494	1,128		-	1,128	1,838		-	1,763	2,723	
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	396	911		-	554	968		-	678	1,283	
6. Unfilled vacs. end of month.....	-	85	26		-	219	54		-	639	395	
Workers:												
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	28	58	158		229	252	763		533	560	818	
% female.....	2,485	2,634	1,353		3,694	4,235	1,308		2,440	2,415	1,049	
% veterans.....	6.6	8.1	21.2		12.3	12.3	24.0		8.5	6.3	14.6	
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more..	48.2	51.9	12.6		55.9	52.1	33.7		48.1	50.5	46.7	
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	44.1	49.1	6.7		49.9	46.4	15.8		35.8	37.7	13.0	
% under 20 years.....	2,471	2,628	1,365		3,657	4,164	1,211		2,363	2,290	681	
% 20 - 45 ".....	4.7	5.8	-		10.5	15.9	-		14.0	11.0	-	
% 45 - 60 ".....	70.5	70.6	-		77.0	72.4	-		63.3	65.6	-	
% over 60 ".....	15.9	14.7	-		8.6	7.4	-		15.9	15.5	-	
2. Applicants registered during month.....	8.9	8.9	-		3.9	4.3	-		6.8	7.9	-	
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	835	1,139		-	1,750	1,731		-	1,782	2,398	
% referred.....	-	3,469	2,492		-	5,985	3,039		-	4,197	3,447	
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	-	26.1	41.6		-	23.3	38.8		-	25.2	53.4	
Employment:	2,455	2,486	1,447		4,076	3,694	1,646		2,509	2,440	1,422	
1. wage and salary workers, first of month	-	6,100	8,500		-	17,100	19,300		-	26,400	25,600	
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-		-	-	-		-	30.02	28.28	
Construction:												
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	-	3		-	120	135		-	34	351	

x Figures subject to revision.

New Glasgow - Pictou

Cumulative effects of the post-war slump in war work, the steel strike, material shortages, and, in one particular case, lack of orders, on iron and steel manufacturing, the major industry, has greatly reduced employment since July 1, 1945, and to a lesser degree from July 1, 1946, just prior to the steel strike. There is virtually no demand for some 2,300 men on file.

Manufacturing of rolling stock (Eastern Car Company Limited) is slack and employment has fluctuated greatly as orders are started and completed: Eastern Car will soon finish work on a 50 car order, and the future outlook is not bright. The former Trenton Steel Works Limited, now called Nova Scotia Steel and Coal Company, hired 200 men recently and will remain busy for the next few months. Steel shortages are still holding up production and employment in the Maritime Steel and Foundries Limited plant.

Coal mines, operating full-time, require no labour.

The approach of the Christmas season has increased the demand for labour in the retail and wholesale fields but many female applicants are still unemployed with small hope of work in the near future.

Sydney

The employment picture in this region remains consistently dark. Many persons are unemployed and vacancies in all trades are either non-existent or severely limited in number.

The hub of manufacturing activity, the Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation, is back in operation again but manpower in the steel branch will be much lower than before the strike. Many men have registered for unemployment insurance. Logging, the main "recreation" industry for the unemployed at this time of year, has an extremely heavy demand for experienced men. Similarly, orders are high for skilled miners; this, a standing order for many months, is gradually being reduced as trainees graduate.

Although many women are idle, a marked increase has occurred in placements in retail trade for the Christmas season.

Placements of veterans are abnormally low but this is due to the type of jobs available, such as lumbering, potato picking, and ordinary labour.

Saint John

Transportation, trade and service are relatively more important in this area than manufacturing, due to Saint John's position as the second busiest port on Canada's eastern seaboard. Manufacturing is diversified and on a small scale. The major increase in manufacturing employment during the war occurred in shipbuilding, which, since the war, showed an employment decline of about 60 per cent. The overall vacancy-applicant picture has not changed markedly in the last six months - a large surplus of applications with a light demand.

Port activity is expected to be very high this winter, and will provide work for many men who have been idle because of the usual summer slump. Although some local fishermen now are engaged in lobster fishing, a great many of them have returned to longshore work.

Vacancies for women still outnumber applicants but the Christmas demand will not enlarge the need for women appreciably because of the decline in tourist trade. Many of the available female applicants are not qualified to fill the positions open and a high turnover continues in factory and sales jobs.

Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	49	47	132	117	97	66	25	27	61
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	2,104	593	1,126	425	600	592	19,909	20,696	24,335
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,860	3,416	-	308	928	-	13,366	16,004
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	2,455	4,542	-	908	1,520	-	34,062	40,339
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	111	453	-	150	510	-	6,213	5,146
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	405	432	-	471	225	-	16,782	15,437
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	1,147	2,104	3,804	437	425	818	17,755	19,909	17,974
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	327	407	759	1,032	1,090	565	12,935	13,421	28,705
% female.....	46.2	39.1	14.2	26.9	22.8	12.7	16.3	16.1	15.7
% veterans.....	12.2	10.3	6.2	35.6	35.5	20.9	22.9	21.9	16.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	6.4	6.9	3.2	32.3	32.0	3.7	12.6	12.9	5.5
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month...	285	370	513	941	973	364	11,679	11,340	24,578
% under 20 years.....	16.9	16.5	-	14.0	12.0	-	7.3	7.2	-
% 20 - 45 "	63.5	64.6	-	67.3	66.7	-	50.9	49.5	-
% 45 - 60 "	12.3	13.2	-	10.9	13.0	-	19.0	20.3	-
% over 60 "	7.4	5.7	-	7.8	8.3	-	22.8	23.0	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	328	1,046	-	564	1,226	-	17,810	28,359
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	735	1,805	-	1,654	1,791	-	31,231	57,064
% referred.....	-	25.0	34.3	-	18.9	37.1	-	38.6	19.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	344	327	910	1,244	1,032	726	11,834	12,935	28,257
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month....	-	7,000	6,900	-	10,600	11,000	-	481,900	460,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32.84	32.09
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	11	29	-	195	27	-	6,591	2,572

x Figures subject to revision.

Chicoutimi

The fall crops have been harvested and ploughing operations throughout the Chicoutimi area have come to an end. Demand for farm help, therefore, is no longer apparent and many farmers are taking jobs in the bush for the winter months. Approximately 4,000 men now are employed in cutting pulpwood and lumber, with an additional 3,000 required to fill current needs.

In the manufacturing field, the Aluminum Company of Canada plans to re-open several of its potrooms at the end of December. This company is in urgent need of millwrights, plate workers and moulders.

The construction industry remains active. The four major commercial projects now underway are progressing favourably despite shortages of materials. This, combined with a small amount of private home construction, is providing employment for all the skilled workers available (painters excepted).

At the present time, fewer than 200 men are unemployed, the majority being in the service worker and unskilled labour classifications.

Hull

Employment conditions in this city have remained fairly stable during the past month, although there has been a slight increase in the total number of applicants registered for employment.

The highlight of the November labour market was the opening of the new \$1,500,000 Canadian International Paper Company plywood plant at Gatineau Mills. This company at present employs a staff of 325, and it is reported that this number will be increased to 400 in the near future.

With farm operations completed for this year, many farmers are taking jobs in the bush for the winter months. Approximately 4,000 men are engaged in wood cutting operations in the Gatineau area, and an additional 500 are still required.

The past few weeks have seen a definite reduction in construction employment. The arrival of winter has cut down outside construction work to a minimum, and the shortage of building materials, now becoming increasingly serious, has caused a number of lay-offs.

Montreal

Employer need for workers remains high, although shortages of materials are in some cases limiting industrial expansion and in others causing temporary staff reductions.

Close to two-thirds of the job openings on order are for females, as has been the case for over a year. An analysis of the total jobs available at the present time reveals that 31 per cent pay \$15 a week or less, 28 per cent - \$16 to \$20 weekly, 11 per cent - \$20 to \$25, and the remaining 30 per cent over \$25 weekly. Thus it is not surprising that the National Employment offices have difficulty in finding applicants for many of these jobs.

The fact that 60 per cent of the applicants available are in the older age bracket also hinders placement operations. Most firms are extremely reluctant to hire older men and women because of the difficulty in fitting them into company pension plans, group insurance, etc.

In view of the seasonal decline in certain industries (construction, secondary textile manufacturing,) it is unlikely that there will be any further reduction in the number of unplaced applicants before the spring of 1947.

Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	125	114	139	87	85	95	18	13	34
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	1,697	2,155	3,251	165	296	144	326	378	610
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	2,221	4,760	-	150	299	-	814	862
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	4,376	8,031	-	446	443	-	1,192	1,472
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	1,138	2,754	-	224	274	-	518	642
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	2,062	2,003	-	323	525	-	661	448
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	2,056	1,897	2,626	59	185	21	184	326	416
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	7,733	7,555	8,671	881	887	945	259	264	553
% female.....	39.8	39.2	42.3	42.7	41.3	20.1	21.6	26.1	14.6
% veterans.....	19.6	20.2	9.6	11.5	12.7	3.7	18.5	22.3	17.0
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	13.6	14.4	6.2	9.5	11.8	2.2	11.2	15.5	10.7
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	7,570	7,581	8,426	875	887	851	219	207	463
% under 20 years.....	14.9	13.4	-	10.3	10.9	-	15.5	18.9	-
% 20 - 45 "	71.4	72.3	-	70.7	69.7	-	57.1	53.1	-
% 45 - 60 "	10.1	10.3	-	9.7	9.1	-	16.0	18.8	-
% over 60 "	3.6	4.0	-	9.3	10.3	-	11.4	9.2	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	4,574	7,989	-	485	523	-	714	1,288
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	12,429	16,660	-	1,372	1,468	-	978	1,841
% referred.....	-	17.0	21.7	-	18.8	18.4	-	71.7	51.2
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	8,463	7,733	10,157	907	881	1,048	346	259	621
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	-	67,700	73,200	-	10,400	11,000	-	19,600	18,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	26.49	28.84	-	-	-	-	28.53	26.79
Construction:									
Value of building permits ('000's).....	-	580	531	-	31	67	-	88	94

x Figures subject to revision

Quebec

Although the employment picture in Quebec city is by no means satisfactory, unemployment continues on the downgrade. Recruiting for wood cutting and mining operations have been proceeding and so far the response to the demand for labour has been highly satisfactory. On the other hand, employment in transportation and agriculture is rapidly decreasing.

Many manufacturing plants are on a four day week because of material shortages. Lay-offs have occurred in local slipper and glove factories as a direct result of the shortage of leather.

It is reported that on December 15 the city of Quebec will take over the buildings formerly occupied by the Quebec Arsenal. Space in these buildings will be leased to various industries, and it is likely that preference will be given to those industries which will provide the greatest amount of employment.

In the male labour field, there is a heavy demand for loggers, with very few job openings available for other types of workers. A large part of the excess male labour supply is made up of unskilled workers. Women are available for almost every type of job, with a heavy concentration of job seekers apparent in the clerical, sales, and unskilled worker groups.

Shawinigan Falls

The level of employment fluctuates in the area because of material shortages. While job opportunities now are scarce in all industries except logging, the potential labour demand, unhampered by material shortages, would provide many jobs, particularly in the construction industry (industrial).

The Aluminum Company of Canada's intended lay-off of 100 men has been reduced to 50 men. Shawinigan Chemicals, Carbide Division has been forced to lay-off 100 employees because of a shortage of steel barrels. The Shawinigan Water and Power Company's intended construction program, which would employ approximately 500 men has been postponed for some time to come because of insufficient material to start.

Many of the workers being laid-off from the construction industry are finding work in logging camps until construction activity should increase. There is a constant demand for woodsmen and many more men than usual are accepting this work because of the improved working conditions and wages.

Sherbrooke

With a branch of the Bruce Silk Company opening within the next few months, the present shortage of labour for the textile industry may become more stringent. Even so, this industry now is working to establish production on a three shift basis.

Secondary iron and steel manufacturing now assumes a much larger proportion of employment than prior to the war. Because of these industrial changes, and the current number of higher paid and more attractive jobs on the labour market, the textile industry has in the past lost out in the demand for labour.

It is anticipated that the current supply of labour (female) will scarcely be sufficient to meet the Christmas need of the retail and wholesale trade.

There has been a marked decrease in labour turnover among veterans, indicating the satisfactory placement of many of these men and women.

Although the season is well advanced virtually all available construction labour, skilled and unskilled, are still employed.

Item	Sorel		Three Rivers		Valleyfield		
	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Oct. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	74	63	186	97	85	115	114
Jobs:							
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	99	140	151	169	265	369	713
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	368	583	-	712	1,015	907
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	508	734	-	977	1,384	1,620
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	114	413	-	281	710	498
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	224	22	-	871	208	131
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	93	99	119	197	169	448	765
Workers:							
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	507	560	1,648	2,927	3,115	2,283	540
% female.....	20.3	15.7	5.9	21.7	23.4	36.8	11.9
% veterans.....	9.7	8.9	0.1	14.9	15.2	7.9	8.1
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	6.9	7.5	0.1	11.7	11.9	3.8	4.8
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month...	497	550	0	2,873	3,035	2,113	452
% under 20 years.....	12.1	8.9	-	20.4	30.7	-	-
% 20 - 45 "	65.0	65.3	-	64.9	55.4	-	-
% 45 - 60 "	13.5	16.0	-	11.7	11.0	-	-
% over 60 "	9.4	9.8	-	3.0	2.9	-	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	366	742	-	921	1,431	1,021
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	926	2,390	-	4,036	3,714	1,561
% referred.....	-	18.1	20.3	-	12.2	19.3	44.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	593	507	1,566	3,319	2,927	2,435	694
Employment:							
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month....	-	8,000	8,400	-	34,300	33,600	6,100
2. Per capita weekly earnings. " "	-	-	-	-	31.99	28.75	-
Construction:							
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	1,020	3	-	415	46	19

x Figures subject to revision.

Sorel

There is no great employment activity at the present time except in the construction industry. However, prospects are such that by next spring unemployment in this area will be almost eliminated. In view of the fact that industry in this area was largely war-created and that a severe slump in employment occurred in the munitions section of Sorel Industries Limited the resilience of the labour market is remarkable.

Marine Industries now employs 2,000 workers and has enough work ahead to continue this pace for many months to come. If it were not for material shortages this company could hire another 500 men. Sorel Steel Foundries is active, with plenty of work on hand.

David and Frere (food products) is expected to open a branch here which will provide employment for some 50 women. Job opportunities in this city have been predominately for males.

Construction work on the two local hospitals is held up by material shortages but foundation work on the building for Canadian Celanese Limited has begun, employing 142 construction workers.

Three Rivers

There has been a general levelling-off of employment activity in the Three Rivers area, chiefly because of the seasonal decline in construction and shipping. The paper industry is maintaining a steady level of production, but yard activity recently has been substantially reduced. The Canadian International Paper Company released 175 of its outside labourers on November 27. Workers laid-off from the dockyards at the close of the navigation season added approximately 250 to the already large surplus of men registered for jobs at the National Employment Service office.

A number of small industries have started up in this city, but for the most part their labour needs are confined to highly skilled men and the salaries offered are extremely low.

Textile manufacturing is on the upswing, but labour demand here is limited to female workers. Wabasso Cottons requires about a hundred young girls to train as weavers and spinners.

Valleyfield

The number of unplaced applicants in this city has steadily decreased since the settlement of the textile strike on September 7. Although job openings for women are numerous, employment opportunities for men, outside of construction and agriculture, are fairly limited. As seasonal lay-offs in the construction industry occur (probably around the beginning of December) unemployment among men will show a marked increase.

War Assets Corporation Limited continues to expand, and at present requires 200 female workers. The local office has suggested that this corporation replace women employees with men wherever possible in order to relieve unemployment among the latter.

Canadian Schenleys Limited, (distillery) and Merks Limited (drug manufacturing), two fairly recently established plants, are gradually expanding. Dusen Footwear Limited and Les Industries Luniers de Salaberry are expected to start production in December, providing jobs for approximately 50 persons.

Item	Brantford			Ft. William & Pt. Arthur			Hamilton		
	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	17	20	37	75	71	104	66	81	49
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	438	630	1,280	7,138	8,500	5,807	1,607	1,640	4,011
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	757	1,107	-	5,338	5,355	-	3,102	4,119
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	1,387	2,387	-	13,838	11,162	-	4,742	8,130
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	288	1,004	-	1,414	2,521	-	1,563	2,337
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	745	165	-	2,808	1,540	-	2,026	2,762
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	425	438	1,026	3,505	7,138	7,002	1,653	1,607	2,344
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	335	301	489	1,678	1,740	2,450	5,531	5,207	2,031
% female.....	35.8	37.9	42.5	38.7	42.1	44.4	21.0	22.4	15.0
% veterans.....	20.3	30.2	6.5	20.4	20.9	10.3	33.9	34.0	13.3
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	14.0	15.0	2.7	10.4	9.5	5.2	19.2	19.9	10.8
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.	316	279	298	1,487	1,527	1,963	5,258	4,963	2,100
% under 20 years.....	12.8	9.7	-	9.2	10.9	-	11.9	11.5	-
% 20 - 45 "	47.5	46.9	-	65.2	64.0	-	57.8	58.3	-
% 45 - 60 "	20.3	20.8	-	13.4	13.8	-	21.7	20.9	-
% over 60 "	19.6	22.6	-	12.2	11.3	-	8.6	9.3	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	706	1,407	-	1,957	2,847	-	4,456	6,627
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,007	1,896	-	3,697	5,297	-	9,663	8,658
% referred.....	-	46.7	74.1	-	41.5	49.9	-	37.2	49.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	289	335	565	1,774	1,678	2,544	4,474	5,531	3,913
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month..	-	16,700	15,400	-	23,500	24,500	-	68,100	80,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	36.73	36.45	-	32.54	32.82
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	433	65	-	376	196	-	521	462

x Figures subject to revision.

Brantford

In the iron and steel industry, demand for skilled labour remains strong in spite of material shortages. The demand for unskilled labour has become appreciably lighter of late however, with such firms as Massey-Harris Company Limited unable to take on additional labourers until their requirements for skilled workers are filled.

The labour shortage in the textile industry continues to be acute. Slingsby Manufacturing Company Limited and Watson Manufacturing Company Limited are in urgent need of female help. Harding Carpet Company Limited requires women to train as Axminster rug weavers and setters. The demand for men is somewhat lighter but a few men are needed to train as woollen and rayon weavers, and men for dye house work are also required.

Shortages of essential oils and pigments have severely handicapped production in the paint manufacturing industry, necessitating a small lay-off.

Fort William and Port Arthur

Logging and pulpwood operations are again getting underway after a strike which lasted from October 12 to November 4, 1946. To date the number of men in the logging industry is still below the pre-strike level but it is expected that many men will go to the woods from farms, and from ships, and docks, when the freeze-up occurs. Thousands of woodsmen will be needed if production quotas are to be met.

The construction of pulp mills in the district is creating a heavy demand for carpenters, plumbers, and heavy labourers. The new paper mill at Marathon (Marathon Paper Mills of Canada Limited) requires many experienced mill hands. The Great Lakes Paper Company will spend two million dollars on a modernization program.

While there is seldom any change made in staffs of firms engaged in wholesale trade in this area, it is expected that retail stores will hire a large number of temporary employees for the Christmas rush. There is a constant demand for competent female office clerks and stenographers. Most of the applicants, however, are married, whereas employers are specifying single status.

Hamilton

The three major strikes in Hamilton are over, and the majority of the men involved are back at work. Over 2,000 workers returned to the Steel Company of Canada, 1,400 to the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company and 4,000 to the Canadian Westinghouse Company. Production has been resumed at the majority of small plants which were affected by the strikes, and laid-off workers are gradually being reinstated.

While employment prospects in general appear much brighter, one dark spot in the picture was the third successive lay-off which took place at the National Steel Car Corporation Limited in mid-November, bringing the normal 1,500 - man staff down to 450.

In the construction field, the number of abandoned building projects is increasing daily, resulting from continued shortages of materials and skilled tradesmen. It was thought that the end of the strikes would bring about an improvement in building material deliveries, however, instead, the situation has become progressively worse.

Item	Kingston		Kitchener-Waterloo				London	
	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	33	32	27	9	8	5	26	23
Jobs:								
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	335	418	556	1,416	925	1,357	1,820	2,082
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	912	1,137	-	1,762	1,977	-	2,798
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	1,330	1,693	-	2,687	3,334	-	4,818
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	641	834	-	470	1,267	-	1,178
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	232	136	-	900	283	-	1,178
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	281	335	420	1,155	1,416	1,175	1,395	1,820
Workers:								
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	559	584	349	246	244	153	765	781
% female.....	34.9	29.5	38.1	12.2	17.2	15.0	26.4	26.5
% veterans.....	28.4	25.0	22.3	42.3	37.7	69.3	36.7	42.8
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	24.5	18.7	15.8	11.8	11.9	18.3	9.3	16.1
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	494	499	215	170	195	32	669	694
% under 20 years.....	20.9	24.7	-	16.5	15.9	-	18.5	14.9
% 20 - 45 ".....	49.4	45.1	-	54.7	56.9	-	43.7	46.5
% 45 - 60 ".....	18.4	17.0	-	11.8	10.8	-	17.9	14.7
% over 60 ".....	11.3	13.2	-	17.0	16.4	-	19.9	23.9
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	944	1,262	-	643	1,478	-	1,968
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,528	1,611	-	887	1,631	-	2,749
% referred.....	-	65.4	97.0	-	91.8	99.1	-	76.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	580	559	444	258	246	171	875	765
Employment:								
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	-	17,400	16,700	-	29,600	33,500	-	33,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " ".....	-	-	-	-	30.88	29.98	-	31.37
Construction:								
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	103	139	-	934	600	-	496

x Figures subject to revision

Kingston

In the heavy manufacturing field conditions are much the same as they were a month ago. The Aluminum Company of Canada continues to hire factory labour, but on a limited scale. The Kingston Shipbuilding and Engineering Company has recalled several of its employees and has commenced repair work on the S.S. Cayuga. Employees of the Canadian Locomotive Company are still on a four day work week, with the exception of those in the boiler shop, where full-scale operations have been resumed.

Employment activity in the textile industry is at a standstill, Canadian Industries Limited (nylon division) being the only plant taking on additional workers at the present time.

Demand for construction workers continues to be strong, and, although the supply of heavy labour has been augmented by the recent influx of farm workers seeking jobs for the winter months, skilled tradesmen are still in short supply.

Domestic servants and hospital workers are required, with no applicants available for this type of work.

Kitchener-Waterloo

The end of the rubber strike is helping to return the labour demand and supply situation to the pre-strike level. While the strike was in progress many rubber workers accepted employment in other industries, therefore, with the consequent lack of demand in the rubber industry and the decreased demand in alternative industries the total number of job vacancies dwindled greatly, and applicants increased. The tight labour situation was thereby relieved.

Major demand for labour is at present confined to the rubber industry. Increased demand for labour is evident in the secondary iron and steel, construction, furniture, transportation, and textile industries. Female demand is larger than in the previous month in packing plants, rubber plants, furniture factories, and textile plants (for sewing machine operators). In regard to labour supply, aside from the clerical group in which there is a small surplus, there is virtually no other occupation in which applicants can meet demand numerically.

London

Now that the strike period is over, and a limited supply of basic materials is available, it is apparent that the larger manufacturing companies are in a far better position than the smaller ones. Production in the former is increasing steadily as material deliveries continue to improve and in general, staffs are being maintained at normal levels. The smaller plants (those with fewer than fifty employees) are less fortunate. Their supplies are slow in coming through, possibly because material requirements are only nominal, and there is some doubt whether many of these companies are financially strong enough to carry a full staff through a much longer period of semi-inactivity.

On the brighter side of the employment picture, it is evident that the present industrial boom is not a temporary one, and, barring the unforeseen, a high level of employment is assured for many months to come. Labour demand continues to be strong with job openings outnumbering unplaced applicants by approximately 5 to 3. There is a particularly heavy demand for service workers and unskilled labour.

Item	Niagara Falls			Oshawa			Ottawa		
	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	24	19	35	99	104	308	58	52	38
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	270	576	651	453	527	666	1,494	1,783	2,145
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	821	772	-	1,045	1,060	-	2,090	5,165
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	1,397	1,423	-	1,572	1,726	-	3,873	7,310
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	497	674	-	704	769	-	973	3,174
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	493	190	-	337	630	-	1,829	1,370
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	191	270	232	253	453	565	1,103	1,424	1,815
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	346	242	368	1,796	3,122	4,418	3,201	3,196	1,957
% female.....	31.5	22.3	26.6	54.2	30.5	52.5	52.7	42.2	20.5
% veterans.....	24.9	34.7	16.3	21.9	21.9	7.6	28.2	28.8	50.5
% vets, unplaced 15 days or more.....	13.6	12.8	5.2	15.3	14.1	4.2	10.4	10.6	16.2
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	317	204	203	1,646	2,943	4,420	3,074	2,976	894
% under 20 years.....	17.0	16.7	-	15.0	10.4	-	12.4	9.1	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	54.6	48.5	-	68.2	65.3	-	51.8	60.2	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	10.7	19.1	-	12.6	19.0	-	23.2	18.6	-
% over 60 ".....	17.7	15.7	-	4.2	5.3	-	12.6	12.1	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	730	1,030	-	1,370	1,901	-	2,934	6,334
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	972	1,396	-	4,492	6,319	-	6,130	7,391
% referred.....	-	76.9	69.7	-	23.3	16.1	-	35.1	61.1
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	426	346	516	1,698	1,796	4,560	3,550	3,201	2,057
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	-	16,000	14,900	-	17,200	14,800	-	61,300	54,800
2. Per capita weekly earnings " ".....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.25	28.47
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	24	9	-	212	90	-	496	336

x Figures subject to revision

Niagara Falls

During November unemployment in Niagara Falls increased by approximately 25 per cent. This is not unusual at this time of year, with canning and grape pressing operations completed, and construction activity at a seasonal low. In addition, one of the larger abrasive manufacturing plants in this area recently shut down several of its furnaces, necessitating a lay-off of some 28 men and the reduction of the working hours of another 75.

Manufacturing remains fairly stable, although one or two local plants have been affected by the power shortage stemming from the coal strike in the United States. It has been announced that the Niagara Dry Beverages will build a half million dollar addition to its plant in 1947, which, when completed, will require additional staff.

Building permits issued in the city of Niagara Falls and suburban Stamford Township, during the first nine months of this year, totalled \$1,274,244. This is almost double the amount in the same period of 1945 when they totalled \$695,449.

Oshawa

Employment conditions in the automobile industry are extremely unsettled, chiefly because of the uncertainty of deliveries of steel supplies. All indications point to the steel shortage continuing for at least another eight months, and it is expected that a sizable lay-off will soon take place at General Motors.

Duplate Canada, Limited and Fiberglass Canada, Limited are back on full time production schedules and both firms are gradually enlarging their staffs.

The leather industry has been hard-hit by the present shortage of raw hides. The Robson Leather Company reports that its stocks are extremely low, and unless the situation improves in the near future, it will have to cut down its staff or close down the plant temporarily.

The heavy surplus of labour in Oshawa persists, applicants now outnumbering jobs by approximately 7 to 1. Unemployment is heaviest among unskilled workers, both male and female.

Ottawa

A seasonal drop in employment marked the approach of the winter season. Shortages of construction materials combined with a general slackening of outside building activity resulted in a marked decrease in demand for construction workers, particularly for those in the heavy labour class.

The overall demand-supply picture in the Ottawa labour market area is extremely unbalanced. In the male labour field, there is a strong demand for skilled tradesmen and professional men, while a large number of clerical workers and labourers are unable to find jobs. Among women, experienced stenographers, domestic servants, charwomen and sewing machine operators are practically unobtainable. On the other hand, the clerical field is vastly overcrowded with job applicants.

The Dominion Government has announced that it will cut back the civil service from 150,000 to 100,000 by April of next year. Lay-offs will of course be heavier in Ottawa than in any other Canadian city, and the number of unplaced applicants in the clerical group will take an even sharper climb.

Item	Peterborough			St. Catharines			Sault Ste. Marie		
	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	22	17	23	48	42	67	59	121	34
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	436	362	664	257	1,011	792	2,238	2,390	1,896
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	835	1,032	-	1,173	1,306	-	403	859
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	1,217	1,716	-	2,184	2,098	-	2,793	2,755
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	555	794	-	686	1,091	-	260	746
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	379	242	-	542	233	-	370	202
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	356	438	633	249	257	276	1,103	2,238	237
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	392	484	326	1,235	1,108	1,395	1,061	1,012	390
% females.....	11.5	7.4	23.3	43.8	45.3	57.6	30.3	38.6	87.4
% veterans.....	37.5	45.2	26.7	23.0	25.1	7.2	10.3	13.2	2.3
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	17.6	26.0	5.5	11.4	12.1	1.9	6.5	10.0	2.3
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month....	286	362	141	1,196	1,048	1,402	1,006	956	396
% under 20 years.....	12.2	14.1	-	15.9	11.9	-	10.2	9.2	-
% 20 - 45 "	51.8	56.9	-	62.3	64.8	-	65.0	68.3	-
% 45 - 60 "	24.1	18.2	-	15.3	16.0	-	18.1	17.3	-
% over 60 "	11.9	10.8	-	6.5	7.3	-	6.7	5.2	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	757	1,112	-	1,417	2,014	-	870	811
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	1,241	1,436	-	2,525	3,409	-	1,882	1,201
% referred.....	-	73.2	84.1	-	46.1	41.2	-	15.0	55.6
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	520	392	422	1,401	1,235	1,768	515	1,061	440
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	-	23,500	21,000	-	29,200	26,500	-	8,800	14,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	63	67	-	155	54	-	60	67

x Figures subject to revision

Peterborough

The advent of winter has brought about a very sharp change in the employment situation in this area. Most manufacturing plants are recovering from the effects of the recent wave of strikes in other areas and while additional labour will be required when materials become more plentiful, most factories are fairly well staffed for the winter months. There are few job openings at present except for a limited number for highly skilled men. A number of firms here are still negotiating with the unions regarding wage rates; bargaining is on an amicable footing, pointing to peaceful settlement of disputes.

Any proposed expansion in business in the wholesale and retail trade is curtailed by lack of merchandise, resulting in virtually no demand for clerks.

The large number of construction projects are progressing as fast as materials will allow. There is plenty of labour available with the exception of skilled bricklayers.

The usual large demand for loggers exists, with few applicants available.

St. Catharines

As the winter season approaches, outside employment is slowing down or ceasing altogether because of weather conditions. Operations on fruit, vegetable, and grain farms are completed.

Manufacturing continues to be retarded by the lack of certain materials, with the greatest time loss occurring in iron, steel and electrical equipment manufacturing plants.

Although lay-offs necessitated by material shortages are numerous, separations at the request of the employee are taking place at an even higher rate.

The number of persons either applying for, or in receipt of unemployment insurance benefits increased during November, with applicants predominately female. This is mainly due to the curtailment of seasonal operations in canning factories.

Currently, there is a sizable surplus of male unplaced applicants, many of whom are in the unskilled labour class. In the female labour field, stenographers, office clerks, and unskilled workers are in short supply.

Sault Ste. Marie

The labour situation in this area now has returned to the healthy state prevailing before the steel strike. Excluding the demand for some 1,200 woodworkers, remaining vacancies still exceed unplaced applicants.

Practically all former employees of the Algoma Steel Corporation have returned to work and some new men may be hired in the near future.

Transfers in from other local office areas have satisfied the demand for general bush labourers for the time being, and the Abitibi Power and Paper Company now are concentrating on their demand for some 1,200 pulpwood cutters.

Many men have been placed with the Algoma Ore Properties but the Michipicoten iron mines are closing down due to the recent cave-in.

Because of the nature of industry in this area female requirements are very low with the result that some 320 female workers are unemployed.

Shortages of materials are still plaguing contractors but construction labourers are still in demand.

Item	Sudbury			Toronto			Welland		
	Nov. ^x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. ^x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. ^x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)	38	32	30	21	24	46	98	101	52
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	3,055	2,589	1,675	20,054	20,024	23,012	361	333	765
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	4,305	2,306	-	26,114	26,183	-	758	707
3. Total jobs reported during month	-	6,894	3,981	-	46,138	49,195	-	1,091	1,472
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	1,186	1,757	-	7,315	17,675	-	392	597
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	1,328	430	-	15,238	6,006	-	175	55
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	2,489	3,055	1,316	18,726	20,054	13,602	245	361	431
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	923	1,022	904	9,290	9,781	14,118	836	572	316
% female	40.6	39.0	32.7	11.0	10.9	17.0	48.1	46.5	59.2
% veterans	20.2	22.5	9.8	44.6	45.8	35.9	16.0	20.3	3.5
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	8.7	8.8	3.2	20.4	26.4	7.0	8.4	13.5	1.9
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month ..	748	800	454	8,726	8,482	7,802	797	533	187
% under 20 years	19.5	17.2	-	4.3	5.2	-	18.6	13.5	-
% 20 - 45 "	58.8	62.3	-	51.7	49.2	-	62.5	62.3	-
% 45 - 60 "	12.3	10.9	-	25.9	26.8	-	13.9	16.7	-
% over 60 "	9.4	9.6	-	18.1	18.8	-	5.0	7.5	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	1,453	2,058	-	13,553	29,414	-	796	1,116
3. Total workers available in month	-	2,475	2,962	-	23,334	43,532	-	1,368	1,432
% referred	-	57.6	65.8	-	55.0	56.5	-	51.6	58.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	1,099	923	856	8,000	9,290	17,218	812	836	519
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	29,000	28,100	-	330,700	371,300	-	8,300	10,000
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	33.40	32.56	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	65	48	-	6,778	3,445	-	29	31

x Figures subject to revision.

Sudbury

The economy of this labour market area is largely dependent on nickel and copper mining and smelting. Because American markets absorb over 75 per cent of Canada's total output of nickel, production levels in this industry are closely associated with industrial expansion and contraction in the United States. At present, future prospects are bright, and employment in Sudbury's base metal mines is steadily increasing.

The International Nickel Company is building a new plant at Copper Cliff which will be completed in 1947. A new product, nickel oxide sinter, will be produced at the plant and will be offered for use in the manufacture of alloy steels and stainless steels.

In the logging industry, the cutting season is almost at an end, and the "winter haul" will soon commence. Many extra men will be taken on for the latter operation. The majority of lumber camps in the area are well supplied with labour, but turnover continues to be heavy.

Toronto

Production in firms directly hit by strike action is again underway but full recovery is not expected until January. Most plants indirectly affected by strike bottlenecks are gradually regaining activity as supply lines are replenished, but some smaller companies are still releasing workers because of basic material shortages. Notable expansion is planned in the manufacturing trades, but for many firms these plans are yet in the construction stage and labour demand will not be effective until spring.

Conditions in the printing and paper trades and in the textile and wood-working industries remain unchanged; no easing of the acute scarcity of labour is indicated. In the female labour market, the tremendous gap between supply and demand continues to widen - currently there are 12,000 vacancies listed, and only 1,600 applicants. Heavy turnover is reported in all fields.

Both skilled and unskilled help in the construction industry remain very scarce, causing much concern. Demand is heavy for bricklayers, carpenters, cement finishers, electricians and plumbers.

Welland

Activity in the heavy iron and steel manufacturing industries remains stationary due to continued shortages of materials and there is little hope for any improvement in the situation before the new year.

There has been a marked improvement in the labour situation in the textile industry during the past month. Woods Manufacturing Company reports that its demand for unskilled labour has been met, but skilled loom fixers, spinners and drawing tenders are urgently required. Vacancies reported are chiefly for night-shift work.

Construction activity has slackened off considerably of late, consequently the demand for building tradesmen and labourers is light. Vacancies reported are limited to a small demand for finish carpenters and railroad maintenance men.

In the female labour field, while there is a fair demand for service workers and skilled textile workers, applicants for clerical positions and unskilled factory workers by far exceed current demand..

Item	Windsor			Winnipeg			Regina		
	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)	148	153	212	56	52	53	36	28	31
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	232	317	601	3,734	5,105	4,864	565	1,048	1,151
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	1,253	1,844	-	7,378	7,094	-	2,086	1,834
3. Total jobs reported during month	-	1,570	2,445	-	12,483	11,958	-	3,134	2,985
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	918	1,635	-	4,224	5,471	-	1,429	1,536
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	910	326	-	4,005	3,230	-	805	584
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	226	232	461	2,692	3,734	3,682	449	565	829
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	7,328	12,585	5,552	7,298	6,836	5,893	925	828	771
% female	25.2	14.0	33.2	24.6	21.8	25.0	19.1	30.1	38.3
% veterans	28.0	16.0	19.9	39.0	39.4	29.1	37.4	36.5	47.0
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	24.0	13.2	9.0	21.1	25.7	17.8	33.9	32.0	16.7
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month ..	7,231	12,460	5,440	6,108	5,512	4,688	748	632	647
% under 20 years	11.0	5.1	-	9.9	8.4	-	19.5	23.4	-
% 20 - 45 "	69.1	83.1	-	60.5	60.4	-	47.6	46.5	-
% 45 - 60 "	16.6	9.9	-	17.3	16.9	-	21.3	18.5	-
% over 60 "	3.3	1.9	-	12.3	14.3	-	11.6	11.6	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	3,106	4,367	-	8,661	7,260	-	2,557	2,961
3. Total workers available in month	-	15,691	9,919	-	15,497	13,153	-	3,385	3,732
% referred	-	10.5	22.3	-	47.5	61.0	-	71.2	76.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	7,064	7,328	7,209	7,906	7,298	6,990	1,191	925	955
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	47,800	34,000	-	140,500	132,000	-	33,170	30,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	35.91	39.74	-	30.73	29.56	-	29.90	28.15
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	264	172	-	848	1,117	-	614	164

x Figures subject to revision

Windsor

The employment picture in Windsor is far from promising. Accumulated shortages of steel have resulted in the release of 2,400 men from the Ford Motor Company and subsequent employment cut-backs have occurred in various feeder-plants in the area. If the coal strike in the United States continues for more than two or three weeks, many local factories will be forced to shut down completely when their coal supplies become exhausted. If, however, a settlement is effected shortly, production in the automobile industry should be back to normal by January or February of the new year.

Construction activity continues to be hampered by the lack of both materials and skilled men. Among the latter, carpenters, brick layers and cement finishers are most urgently required.

Employment conditions in the service industries have shown a marked improvement during the past month. This is partially due to the fact that there are no strikes in effect locally at the present time. With the Christmas season nearing, employment in the retail stores is rapidly approaching its seasonal peak.

Winnipeg

There are a large number of unfilled vacancies on hand for agricultural workers, but, while many of the applicants registering for employment are farmers and farm workers, most of these men prefer woods operations and other seasonal employment. Now that the recent woodsmen's strike has been settled, many of these men are going into the woods, and there are signs of an over-supply.

The continued shortage of experienced miners has the effect of limiting opportunities for inexperienced men. However, some beginners now are being accepted.

Manufacturing is generally quiet. The automotive, metal, and textile industries show little activity. The textile industry now is experiencing the seasonal lull, due to the change-over from winter to spring apparel.

There is an increased demand for both male and female clerks and stenographers in retail and wholesale trade. In addition, large numbers of female help are being engaged temporarily for the Christmas season.

Construction work continues to be very active despite a decrease in vacancies.

Regina

At this time total unfilled vacancies still outnumber total unplaced applicants. The bulk of the labour in the skilled and unskilled trades has been absorbed and most of the remaining applicants are not capable of filling job openings, lacking either the skill or the physical fitness, or being too old to fill the job.

Fall agricultural work is coming to a close. To date 450 men have been referred to Ontario logging camps, thus relieving the usual seasonal slump in agricultural employment.

Packing plants are hiring men. Creameries and flour mills are fully staffed, and grain deliveries to local elevators are satisfactory.

Sash and door plants and concrete products companies are again operating full-time after the cut-backs caused by material shortages. However, they require no labour.

Volume of business and labour demand in retail and wholesale trade is controlled by the supplies of merchandise available. Stocks are low and so far demand is very light.

The construction industry is operating full-time with a shortage of skilled tradesmen.

Item	Saskatoon			Calgary			Edmonton		
	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	47	33	35	69	56	57	45	35	34
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	563	737	934	985	1,286	1,874	2,299	2,096	2,054
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,073	1,038	-	3,446	3,122	-	4,944	4,503
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	1,810	1,972	-	4,732	4,996	-	7,040	6,557
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	581	831	-	2,546	2,410	-	2,844	3,115
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	777	814	-	1,270	910	-	1,861	929
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	329	563	510	678	985	1,341	1,591	2,299	2,276
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	1,479	967	936	2,747	2,421	1,770	2,367	2,228	1,434
% female.....	29.3	41.1	26.4	24.0	23.4	29.2	21.6	29.1	26.8
% veterans.....	30.8	32.2	41.8	43.5	46.9	28.4	39.4	34.7	34.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	14.0	16.8	20.1	23.2	30.8	11.4	15.8	11.0	12.8
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month..	1,130	857	574	2,532	2,212	1,343	2,017	1,923	1,079
% under 20 years.....	16.6	14.2	-	11.7	13.0	-	12.9	13.1	-
% 20 - 45 "	58.7	58.2	-	57.3	55.1	-	56.6	57.7	-
% 45 - 60 "	16.7	17.9	-	18.6	19.1	-	19.5	18.2	-
% over 60 "	8.0	9.7	-	12.4	12.8	-	11.0	11.0	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,935	2,594	-	4,068	4,266	-	5,014	5,097
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	2,902	3,530	-	6,489	6,036	-	7,242	6,531
% referred.....	-	42.5	37.4	-	53.3	54.4	-	58.2	69.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	2,123	1,479	1,405	3,411	2,747	2,574	3,014	2,367	2,329
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month...	-	44,700	40,600	-	49,300	44,900	-	67,700	67,500
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	30.20	27.43	-	32.47	31.24	-	31.02	30.01
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	335	122	-	1,023	643	-	2,182	1,908

x Figures subject to revision.

Saskatoon

Fall agricultural work is nearly completed and many farm hands are taking employment in mine and woods operations.

In the main manufacturing field, food processing and flour milling, employment is high and the labour force is still increasing slightly.

Two new manufacturing companies recently opened. Western Brush Company will employ about thirty men, manufacturing brooms, and the Saskatoon Electro-Plating works, to engage in the manufacture of tubular furniture, will require upholsterers, wood workers, metalworkers, and tank men.

Sheet metal companies are rehiring men laid-off because of the steel strike. Orders are largely for heavy labour and the work will be temporary, lasting only until the cold weather sets in.

Wholesale and retail trade have little demand for sales clerks because of the current lack of merchandise. Demand in hotels and restaurants has narrowed down to skilled girls. A few single stenographers are required.

Building supplies now are more plentiful, boosting the already high demand for skilled tradesmen and labourers.

Calgary

The normal seasonal slump in agriculture, construction, and some sections of the service industry is becoming evident. Job vacancies have decreased considerably, and more workers are registering for employment. However, until recently, most applicants in the lower age brackets who were sufficiently skilled were working, with the exception of "white collar" workers and a lesser number of unskilled workers.

Idle farm workers have filled most of the local orders for woodsmen and many men are going to other districts on clearance.

Generally speaking, manufacturing is busy. Meat packing plants are fully staffed; local manufacturing of wallboard and plaster board is on a three shift basis; Canada Cement Company are preparing to enlarge their plant.

Job opportunities for males in the retail and wholesale trades are scarce but Christmas demand will provide work for all female sales clerks, married and single.

Outside work on private dwellings has come to a stop. While some labourers will be released, most of the skilled tradesmen will be retained, as the supply of finishing materials is beginning to improve.

Edmonton

The employment situation at Edmonton could be described as very good if it were not for the large number of "white collar" workers for whom demand is light. In other categories demand is such that any men suitable for the job openings can be placed.

Fall agricultural work is completed. To offset the unemployment caused by this slump, nearly 800 men have entered woods operations during October and the first week of November.

Representatives of the Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company, Trail, B.C. and the Kerr-Addison Company, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, were interviewing men in this city to fill vacancies for heavy labour. C. M. & S. now has sent out a warning not to encourage any more men to go to Trail as needs have been filled.

Packing plants are fully staffed; sawmills and planing mills have absorbed 115 men in the last few weeks, but brickyards will soon cease operations and sash and door factories are seriously hampered by lack of materials.

Item	Trail			Vancouver			Victoria		
	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945	Nov. x 1946	Oct. 1946	Oct. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	44	39	20	81	74	75	51	41	40
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	203	294	173	3,748	6,072	7,978	603	1,338	1,083
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	324	178	-	10,641	13,132	-	1,537	1,902
3. Total jobs reported during month.....	-	618	351	-	16,713	21,110	-	2,875	2,985
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	306	146	-	5,414	9,566	-	1,117	1,509
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	94	33	-	8,514	4,583	-	742	440
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	137	203	86	2,520	3,748	5,750	547	603	649
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	354	278	102	13,923	14,840	11,960	1,900	1,811	1,463
% female.....	46.9	59.6	27.5	19.9	18.2	23.8	23.5	19.4	26.0
% veterans.....	19.8	24.8	9.8	39.3	34.4	51.1	42.0	37.3	27.8
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more..	12.7	15.1	7.8	21.3	24.2	11.1	27.4	24.2	9.8
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	294	236	75	12,929	13,134	9,324	1,848	1,713	1,220
% under 20 years.....	12.6	9.3	-	7.7	5.8	-	11.8	8.2	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	57.2	53.8	-	53.3	53.2	-	40.9	40.5	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	13.9	17.0	-	27.1	23.2	-	27.1	28.7	-
% over 60 ".....	16.3	19.9	-	11.9	12.8	-	20.2	22.6	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	402	287	-	14,577	20,903	-	1,911	2,518
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	680	369	-	29,417	32,863	-	3,722	3,981
% referred.....	-	50.4	45.5	-	31.6	42.0	-	37.5	44.9
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	396	354	163	15,195	13,923	14,208	2,313	1,900	1,904
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month	-	9,000	8,100	-	188,000	190,700	-	45,800	48,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	-	-	-	34.26	33.61	-	31.17	32.20
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	44	4	-	1,776	1,729	-	-	178

x Figures subject to revision.

Trail

A flood of applicants continues to arrive in this area although job vacancies have diminished considerably. The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company has cancelled all clearance orders for unskilled labour and stresses that this fact should be made known, as many men are still arriving from the prairie regions. There is no work to offer these men as they are nearly all agricultural workers seeking unskilled jobs. Unskilled labour requirements are filled for the rest of the winter.

Logging and bush operations will be closing down at any time now due to snow conditions; one mill may have a full crew operating throughout the winter.

Female requirements are mostly for waitresses and domestics. A few first class office machine operators and stenographers can be placed at better than average wages providing they are unmarried.

Vancouver

Logging and sawmill requirements for labour are nearly filled. The influx of unskilled labour from the prairies has developed to such an extent that a surplus now exists. The logging industry requires only key men, and a few semi-skilled personnel.

Deep-sea shipping is quiet at the present time. The number of vacancies listed by coastwise shipping companies has decreased considerably and demand is limited to captains and first mates. There is a good demand for diesel engineers. Shipyards now are receiving limited quantities of steel and as a result men are being called back to work. Metalworking plants are more active as materials become more plentiful.

There appears to be little unemployment caused by the wage dispute in the gold mining industry. Many men easily secured work with construction crews and in the woods.

Many male and female semi-skilled clerical workers are on file but most of the jobs available call for highly skilled personnel. Women are being employed in retail stores for the Christmas season.

Victoria

Manufacturing activity at this date has not lived up to expectations, chiefly because of the unexpected lack of activity in the shipbuilding industry which will not begin new contracts until after the new year.

The Victoria Machinery Depot has laid-off over 100 men because of material shortages and Yarrows have not started on their new contract as they are having extreme difficulty in securing draughtsmen to complete the plans. Generally speaking, there are many shipyard workers on file with no demand for their services.

Small logging operators require buckers and fallers but other loggers are not required in any great number at present. There are no vacancies for unskilled or semi-skilled workmen in local saw mills.

The trade and service industries are very quiet; orders for workers are low and applicants very numerous. Lack of merchandise is the main snag encountered by the retail and wholesale trade.

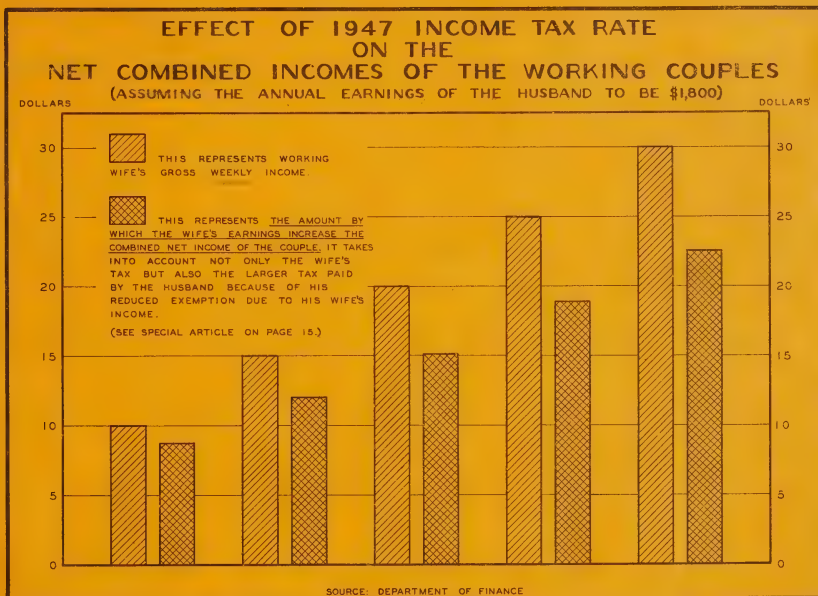
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AS WE GO TO PRESS

Unplaced Applicants in Canada, registered at National Employment Service Offices, jumped 20,000 in the past four weeks to reach the 175,000 mark at January 9, 1947. The first week of January saw a rise of 8,000 and the last week of December also, a seasonal gain of 8,000. The increase was chiefly for males. Temporary shutdowns took place in the logging industry, and lay-offs occurred in manufacturing firms during inventory period. Earlier in December, strong seasonal gains in employment in the retail trade in anticipation of record Christmas buying and a short-term increase in activity in the services temporarily interrupted the uptrend in unplaced applicants. In addition, many workers postponed job-seeking until after the holidays.

Unfilled Vacancies in Canada edged downward following the seasonal downturn to total 90,000 at January 9, 1947. This marks a drop of 8,000 from December 12, 1946. Heavy manufacturing, logging and construction registered marked declines during the past month, accounting for the major part of the decrease.

Unplaced Ex-servicemen in Canada totalled 53,000 at the end of December against 48,000 at November 30. Jobless ex-servicemen out of work 15 days or more climbed 6,000 during December to hit the 37,000 mark at the end of the month. Those unplaced 15 days or more constituted 69 per cent of all jobless veterans at December 31, against 65 per cent at the end of the previous month. Unplaced ex-servicemen constituted 32 per cent of total unplaced applicants in Canada at December 31, substantially unchanged from the proportion at the end of November.

Discharges of Service Personnel during December, 1946, hit the post-V-E day low of 3,500 as compared with 6,000 for November. Total discharges from V-J day on, now equal 691,000. January and February forecasts have shrunk to 3,000 and 2,000 respectively.

A Classification of Canadian Labour Market Areas at December 26, 1946 placed one area in the Acute unemployment category, corresponding to conditions in the "mid-thirties" and two other areas in the Serious unemployment group, comparable to labour market conditions in 1939. Maintaining a consistent trend for the past seven months, unemployment in the Pictou - New Glasgow area is still classified as Acute. The relative labour market status of Windsor changed from Moderate, comparable to 1941 conditions to Serious during December.

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THE MANPOWER PICTURE

Current Situation and Outlook

During December the two holiday periods have always obscured the true manpower picture. Short-term activity in the service industries and in retail trade boost employment during the pre-Christmas weeks, while temporary shut-downs occur in logging as workers return to their homes in urban areas. In addition, this is the inventory period for many manufacturing firms. Consequently, temporary lay-offs occur.

But basically, the employment outlook continues to be favourable. December, the month of unusual conditions, closes a year of high employment without full production. The year we have just entered, however, may very well be one of both high employment and full production.

What will be the pattern of activity during 1947? The year 1946 began with a relatively low level of activity and ended with income, production, and employment at high levels. A continuation and expansion of these levels will almost undoubtedly mark the first 6 to 9 months of 1947.

The last few months of 1947, however, may witness some significant developments.

It is during these months that the downturn from the present high level of activity may occur, particularly in the United States. The longer the economic and price readjustments in the United States are postponed, the more severe will be their eventual effects in that country and consequently the more serious will be the ramifications for Canada.

A few remarks on the significance of probable price movements are in order since they may presage unfavourable developments in the employment situation.

The effect of a sharp break in prices in the United States, in food prices particularly, would be to reduce the pressure of organized labour for wage increases. A comparable effect would probably be seen in Canada.

But it is possible that organized labour may resort to positive action before such a break occurs. This would likely postpone price declines as well as making their effects more severe when they did occur.

On the other hand, a sudden price break may not develop at all in the United States. Already some of their prices have tumbled sharply. It is possible, therefore, that price adjustments will take the form of a series of price declines which are spread over a fairly extended period. This type of price adjustment, however, is more likely to happen in Canada.

In Canada, the general situation is different from that in the United States. We have maintained price control. Only now are prices on wide ranges of commodities being allowed to settle at market levels. At the same time our production has not been running uninterrupted for so long a period as in the United States.

Consequently, the immediate future in Canada as compared with that in the United States, will probably see a few more price rises, much less drastic price declines, and a postponement of any recession that may occur until late in 1947 or even early in 1948.

There is, however, an additional uncertainty for Canada. We ourselves have financed much of our foreign trade with countries other than the United States, especially European countries. These credits now are being used up. It may be that when they are completely drawn upon the particular countries will not be sufficiently rehabilitated to pay for imported goods themselves. To the extent that this is true, a termination of our policy of advancing foreign credits might reduce this portion of our foreign trade and thus affect adversely our level of economic activity.

Finally, prosperity in this country now does not mean that there are no current problems.

Unemployment now is increasing seasonally, to the extent that unplaced applicants are an indication. This however, should not continue for much more than 2 months and unplaced applicants will not likely exceed 200,000 by much, if at all.

Labour-management relations are currently quiet, but an outbreak such as occurred last summer would prove serious.

These are comments on the outlook for 1947, as it is seen at present. These views will, of course, be revised constantly in the light of actual developments.

Industrial Employment

Cyclical expansion of employment continues--At November 1, 1946, data on the volume of industrial employment in the nine leading industries of this country indicated a continuation of the upward movement which began during last August. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported a total of 1,939,836 persons employed in firms with, for the most part, 15 or more workers at the beginning of November. This represented an increase of 38,945 or 2.0 per cent over the number at October 1, 1946.

Approximately 1.9 per cent of this expansion was due to cyclical and irregular movements. The remainder of the rise is in line with the average seasonal increase which occurred at this time during the war years. When compared with the pre-war seasonal variation, however, it is a contra-seasonal movement.

The employment index, based on the average level of 1926 as 100, rose from 176.7 at October 1, 1946, to 180.3 at November 1. This represents an increase of approximately 45.9 per cent over the 1939 index.

Highest employment advances in Maritimes--Largely as a result of seasonal expansion in the logging industry, industrial employment showed a general improvement in all regions at the beginning of November. The Maritime region recorded the greatest monthly advance with 2.3 per cent, while Ontario ranked a close second with 1.8 per cent. At the same time, increases of 1.5 and 1.4 per cent were reported in the Prairies and Quebec respectively. British Columbia recorded the smallest advance with 1.1 per cent.

Greater manufacturing activity despite material shortages--Although still hampered by inadequate supplies of many materials, manufacturing activity is moving into higher levels and should continue this upward trend during the immediate future.

A combined working force of 1,007,503 persons was reported in manufacturing at November 1, representing an advance of 17,623 or 1.8 per cent over the previous month. This rise, which was contra-seasonal in comparison with both the normal pre-war seasonal pattern and the average seasonal variation during the war years, was

caused by delayed production activity following the termination of major strikes.

Contra-seasonal increases in three non-manufacturing industries--Among the non-manufacturing industries, seasonal increases of employment were recorded in logging, mining, and trade while contra-seasonal increases occurred in communications, transportation, and construction. A drop in services employment was a normal seasonal development.

Seasonal expansion in logging below normal--For the second consecutive month logging operations continued to expand although the seasonal increase in employment of 19 per cent was much less than the rise which occurred between October 1 and November 1 in both pre-war years and in war-time. However, this situation is probably due to the fact that logging got off to an early start and thus the work will be spread over a longer period of time. Farmers who had completed an early harvest were able to enter the logging force earlier in this season than in that of previous years.

It is expected that high employment will continue in the logging industry because of the heavy demands for its products. Lumber is needed to meet building program and export requirements as well as to meet the heavy demands for pulp-wood products both at home and abroad.

Seasonal expansion in mining--Employment in mining continued its upward trend at the beginning of November with an increase of 1.5 per cent. This upward movement has been continuing fairly steadily since the end of the war and employment now is about 10 per cent above its level at that time. The rise compares favourably with the normal pre-war seasonal increase during October but exceeds the expansion which occurred at the same time during the war years.

At the beginning of November, indications were that the labour disputes, which had been delaying mining operations for the past three months, would soon be terminated. This will mean an increasing demand for mine workers of all types but lack of housing and transportation facilities will have to be overcome before any marked expansion can take place.

Upward movement in construction--An outstanding development of recent months has been the upward movement in construction employment regardless of shortages. Widespread strike settlements led to a sharp increase in the award of construction contracts during October and the industry is operating well despite the acute shortages of men and materials. An increase in employment of .2 per cent over October 1 was contra-seasonal in character and may be attributed to the fact that many projects had reached the "inside work" stage and that the industry as a whole has been favoured with exceptionally fine Fall weather. The seasonal slow-down during the winter months is expected to relieve the building material situation for the present.

Pre-Christmas seasonal expansion in trade--Seasonal expansion was noted in trade employment at November 1, with an increase of 2.1 per cent over the preceding month. The pre-Christmas rush season was the main contributing factor to this rise, which was slightly more than the average pre-war seasonal increase at that time, but compared favourably with the war-time seasonal expansion.

Contra-seasonal gain in communications--In comparison with both the normal pre-war and war-time seasonal variations, employment in communications showed a contra-seasonal gain of 1.1 per cent at the beginning of November. Favourable Fall weather enabled construction work to be carried on longer than usual. A backlog of construction and maintenance work has also caused activity to be more brisk.

Transportation experiences contra-seasonal expansion--At the beginning of November, an upward movement of 1.8 per cent in employment was revealed by this industry. This rise is contra-seasonal in comparison with both the pre-war seasonal pattern and the average decline during the war years. A late freeze-up this Fall extended operations in marine transportation.

Normal seasonal decline in services--The decline of 4.1 per cent which occurred in services employment during October slightly exceeded the normal seasonal decline for both the pre-war years and the war period. This downswing was primarily caused by the closing of summer resorts. There has also been a scarcity of labour in this field.

Industry analysis on basis of purpose classification--The following is an analysis of the trends in employment of the major components of the manufacturing industry.

From January 1, 1946, to November 1, reported employment in all manufacturing industries rose 7.3 per cent, while the average pre-war seasonal movement for the same period was a gain of approximately 8.1 per cent. Increases took place in the consumer non-durable, consumer durable, and producer goods sectors. These increases were largely brought about by strike terminations, except in the case of consumer non-durables, which have risen steadily since the beginning of the year.

Seasonal slowdown in non-durables--After a steady upswing since the beginning of the year, employment in those industries producing consumer non-durable goods declined 1.6 per cent from October 1 to November 1. Largely responsible for this downswing was the fact that food processing plants had closed for the season. The experience of the years 1942 to 1945 shows that the decline in food during October was a normal seasonal development. Notable expansion occurred in the clothing group and in printing and publishing. Tobacco goods and beverages remained relatively the same for October.

From the beginning of the year until November 1, employment in industries ancillary to non-durables experienced an increase of 9.1 per cent. Of this rise, 1.8 per cent occurred during October. Although the increase was centered in the industries primary to clothing and miscellaneous finished textiles, the output of some textile mills has been curtailed owing to a shortage of materials. Clothing manufacturers are similarly handicapped. In the industries primary to food and primary to printing and publishing declines occurred. In comparison with the seasonal indices derived from the years 1942 to 1945 for food the decline was contra-seasonal in character, while upon the basis of the years 1930 to 1939 the decline in industries primary to printing and publishing was seasonal.

With regard to Canada's paper industry (primary to printing and publishing) there is a definite shortage of box cars for moving the record pulpwood cut to the mills. Although an appeal was issued to the railroads, little encouragement could be offered. Unless a minimum of 350,000 cords are moved to the domestic mills between October 15 and December 15, the industry would have to scale down production next March or April.

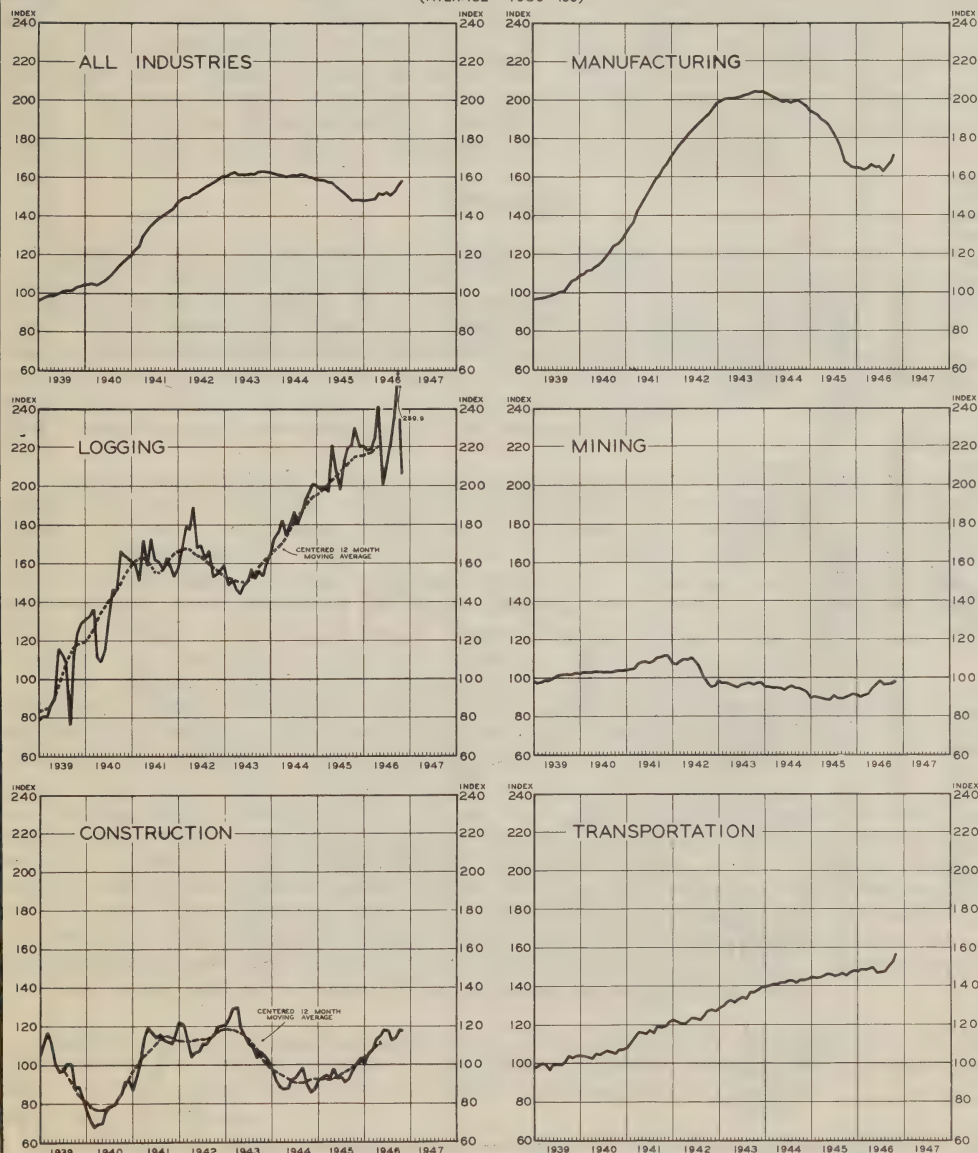
Brighter outlook for consumer durables--In the consumer durable finished goods industries, employment has increased by 11.3 per cent since the beginning of the year; of this increase, 4.0 per cent occurred between October 1 and November 1, indicating that the termination of industrial tie-ups has definitely relieved the "slowing-up process" which has been quite apparent in recent months. The upward movement during October should be described as an irregular rather

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

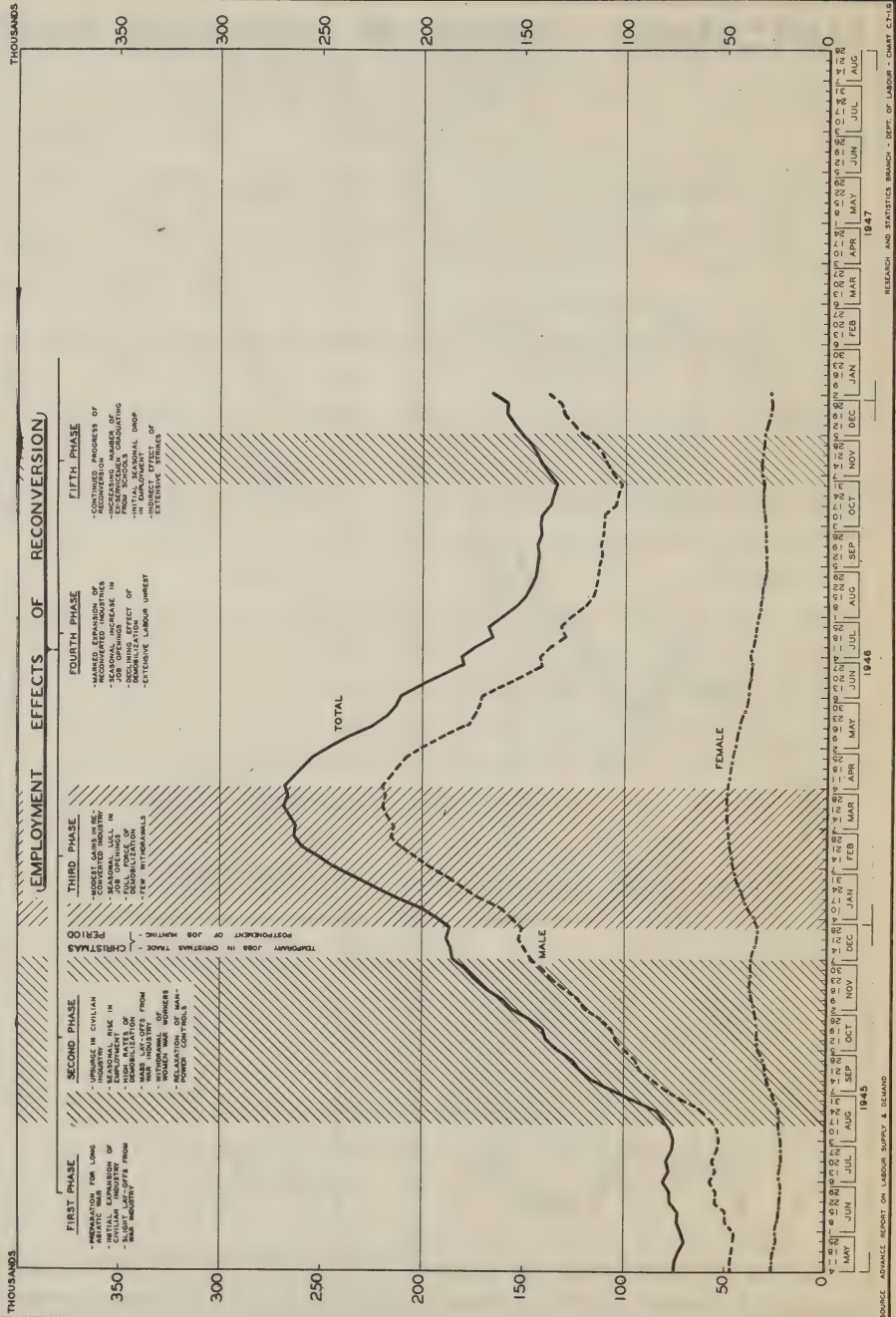
FROM 1939 TO 1947

(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)



UNPLACED APPLICANTS IN CANADA

AS REPORTED BY THE
NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



than a seasonal fluctuation.

Producer goods industries surpass January level—A decided increase in industrial activity following major strike settlements in October brought employment in this sector at November 1 up 1.9 per cent above the January level. During the preceding month a decline had been reported. Here again the gain is irregular rather than seasonal in character. The following producer goods industries have already surpassed their January employment level - integrated steel, agricultural producers goods, non-ferrous metal products, construction materials, petroleum products, sawmills, and aircraft building.

Unemployment

Seasonal rise in unplaced applicants continues—A total of 166,000 unplaced applicants registered with the National Employment Service at January 2, 1947, brought the number to approximately 25,000 less than that one year ago. About 191,000 were registered at the same time last year. The normal seasonal upswing in unplaced applicants flattened out in the middle of December as unemployed workers postponed job-seeking until after the holiday. By the end of the month, however, the upward trend was again underway and a total gain of 23,000 was recorded over the 143,000 at November 28.

Males comprise majority of unplaced applicants—The rise in unplaced applicants during December was again concentrated amongst male workers. At January 2, 1947, there were 133,000 male unplaced applicants as compared with 115,000 at November 28, 1946. This rise of 23,000 male workers accounts for the entire increase in total unplaced applicants, since men are affected more than women by the slackening in heavy seasonal industries. A rise of 13,000 occurred during the previous month. Female unplaced applicants totalled 28,000 at the beginning of 1947 as compared with 32,000 at November 28.

The proportion of unreferred applicants (workers registered as unplaced who have not yet been referred to jobs) to all unplaced applicants rose to 94.9 per cent at December 26, 4.2 points more than in November and a decline of 2.1 points since the end of March, when the ratio was at its 1946 peak.

Unemployment remains highest in Maritime and Pacific regions—The Maritime and Pacific regions continue to carry the heaviest burdens of unemployment as related to the non-agricultural labour force (see Table II at end of section). In the other three regions, Ontario, Quebec, and the Prairies, the unemployment load is relatively lighter. It should be noted that the incidence of unemployment is based upon the non-agricultural rather than on the total labour force, since unplaced applicants are largely concentrated in the urban areas. Current ratios are based upon the D.B.S. Labour Force Survey of August 31, 1946.

Unequal occupational distribution of jobs and workers continues—At the end of December, the largest number of unplaced applicants occurred in the unskilled group. On the other hand, unfilled vacancies remained highest for skilled and semi-skilled workers.

In the professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service fields the number of jobs and applicants was nearly equal in the case of female workers. On the whole, unfilled vacancies for females exceeded the number of unplaced applicants (See Table III).

Fewer jobs available in December--Unfilled vacancies totalled 90,000 at January 2, 1947. This was 19,000 below the number of unfilled jobs registered with the Employment Service at November 28 but 10,000 higher than at the same time last year. Of this decrease in labour requirements, 15,000 were for male workers and 4,000 for female help.

Pronounced seasonal declines in heavy manufacturing, logging, and construction were chiefly responsible for the slump. The only notable labour demand was for female workers in the service industry of the Maritimes, Ontario, and the Pacific, and in finance, insurance, and real estate in Ontario and Quebec. The situation with regard to shortages of female help in the service field has not improved. There are some indications that more married women may drop out of the labour market with the new applications of income tax in January, 1947.

Live claims rise during November--The number of persons signing the live unemployment register during the last six working days of November totalled 63,760 (46,894 males and 16,866 females) as compared with 57,036 (39,957 males and 17,079 females) at the end of October. The normal seasonal slowdown in employment was still causing a less rapid re-employment of claimants in November.

There were 9,166 claims disallowed during November, as compared with 7,399 in October. Claims disallowed because of loss of work due to labour disputes rose from 417 to 2,146; 3,160 were due to insufficient contributions and 2,766 were for voluntarily leaving work without just cause, both representing increases over the previous month.

Terminations of benefit payments continue to rise--During October, 1946, the payment of unemployment insurance benefits was terminated for 50,400 workers in comparison with 46,172 in September. The major cause of termination was the lapsing of benefit rights with 20,033 or 40 per cent of the workers concerned terminating benefit years in this manner. In September, 20,598 or 45 per cent of the workers were reported as lapsing benefit rights.

Exhausted benefit rights increase--The number of persons who exhausted their benefit rights during October was 5,863 - an increase of 733 over September. Of all terminations, this represents 11.6 per cent in comparison with 11 per cent during the previous month. Of those whose benefit rights were exhausted, 1,771, or 30 per cent, were over 60 years of age while in September the same group represented 28 per cent. At the same time, persons between the ages of 20 and 30 accounted for 24 per cent which is the same as the previous month. On the basis of occupations, 29 per cent of those exhausting benefit rights were manufacturing and mechanical workers and 29 per cent were labourers.

Payrolls and Weekly Earnings

Upward trend continues in payrolls and weekly earnings--Aggregate payrolls have continued to rise since September following the upward trend in industrial employment. The aggregate payroll index, based on June 1, 1941, as 100, rose from 149.9 at October 1 to 154.0 at November 1. An increase of 2.5 points was recorded in the employment index on the same base. Recent increases in wage rates of from 10 to 15 cents per hour were the main contributing factor.

An increase was also recorded in per capita weekly earnings which rose from \$33.23 at October 1 to \$33.42 at November 1. Weekly earnings were then higher than either the November 1, 1944 level of \$32.30 or the November 1, 1945 level of \$32.03. Wage rate increases were also responsible for this rise.

Hourly Earnings

Average hourly earnings per wage earner in manufacturing rose from 71.4 cents at October 1 to 72.7 cents at November 1. Largely responsible for this gain were heightened employment and higher wage rates in many industries. Higher rates of pay occurred in those industries producing heavy electrical apparatus, iron and steel products, non-ferrous metal products, rubber products, beverages, chemicals, machinery, automobiles and parts, and aluminum and its products. Shipbuilding and repairing also reported higher hourly earnings.

Hours Worked

Average weekly hours worked in manufacturing at November 1 declined to 42.4 hours from 42.9 hours at October 1. This decline resulted from a shortened work-week in a number of industries following newly-negotiated agreements. Seasonal variation was also a contributing factor.

Strikes and Lockouts

Strike activity continued to ebb during November, 1946, with a decline in time loss of more than 360,000 days as compared with the previous month and of more than 388,000 days as compared with the same period a year ago. This means that November showed only 8 per cent of the time loss experienced in October, and only 7 per cent of the average for the first ten months of 1946. This great drop in time loss was due to the termination during October of most of the major industrial walkouts, including those in the steel, rubber, brass, electrical apparatus, and chemical industries.

Preliminary figures show 18 strikes in existence during November, 1946, involving 8,166 workers with a time loss of 33,890 man-working days, as compared with 27 strikes in October, 1946, with 32,919 workers involved and a time loss of 393,296 days. In November, 1945 there were 24 strikes, involving 31,054 workers, with a time loss of 422,673 days.

At the end of the month five strikes were recorded as unterminated, namely; metal miners in British Columbia; composers at Ottawa, Hamilton, Edmonton, and Vancouver; gold and copper miners and smelter workers at Noranda, P.Q.; wood products factory workers at Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, and ammunition depot workers at Renou, New Brunswick. However, since that time, terminations have occurred for metal miners in British Columbia, wood products factory workers at Prince Albert and ammunition depot workers at Renou.

At the beginning of November, steel production was rapidly swinging back to normal following the steel strike which cut plant production in one plant by 50 per cent and stopped the production of all other plants entirely. The production of automobiles was also back to about 75 per cent of the May output. Although production of certain lines will continue to be handicapped by shortages of raw materials, prospects for a high level of production throughout the coming year are good. The heavy backlog of demand for automobiles, refrigerators, new houses, washing machines and other consumer durables provides a sound basis for this belief.

Cost-of-Living Index

The cost-of-living index remained unchanged at 127.1 (average 1935-39=100) for the beginning of December, 1946. A fractional decrease occurred in the food group due to lower prices of eggs and some vegetables. Small increases in other groups balanced the loss in foods. Scattered increases in western coal prices caused the fuel and light group to advance slightly. Slight rises also occurred in clothing, home furnishings, and services. Rentals and the miscellaneous group remained at the November level.

Table I--Employment Trends by Major Industrial Group

(Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S.)

Industry	Jan. 1 1946	Nov. 1 1946	Change	
			No.	%
Consumer Non-Durable Finished Goods Industries.....	283,125	317,891	34,766	12.3
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Non-Durables.....	138,233 ^x	150,753	12,520	9.1
Consumer Durable Finished Goods Industries.....	115,863 ^x	128,911	13,048	11.3
Industries Ancillary to Consumer Durables.....	1,328	1,211	-117	-8.8
Producer Goods Industries.....	377,896 ^x	384,904	7,008	1.9
Total Manufacturing.....	916,445 ^x	983,670	67,225	7.3

^x Revised

Table II--Unplaced Applicants as a Percentage of Non-Agricultural Labour Force by Region

(Source: Labour Force Survey, D.B.S. Labour Demand and Supply, Research and Statistics Branch)

Region	November 17, 1945			February 23, 1946			January 2, 1947		
	Non-Agric Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Non-Agric Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%	Non-Agric Labour Force	Unpl. Apps.	%
Maritimes...	303,000	12,000	4.0	310,000	22,000	7.1	346,000	23,000	6.6
Quebec.....	1,072,000	60,000	5.6	1,011,000	85,000	8.4	1,073,000	43,000	4.0
Ontario.....	1,300,000	54,000	4.2	1,282,000	80,000	6.2	1,356,000	47,000	3.5
Prairies....	462,000	24,000	5.2	488,000	40,000	8.2	516,000	30,000	5.8
Pacific.....	322,000	19,000	5.9	344,000	33,000	9.6	367,000	23,000	6.3
Canada.....	3,459,000	169,000	4.9	3,435,000	260,000	7.6	3,658,000	166,000	4.5

Table III--Comparison of Vacancies and Applicants by Occupation as at December 26, 1946

(Source: Revised Labour Demand and Supply Report, Research and Statistics Branch)

Occupational Group	Unfilled Vacancies			Unplaced Applicants		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Canada.....	55,295	35,878	91,173	131,157	27,224	158,381
Professional and managerial, clerical, sales and service.....	6,972	16,487	23,459	26,087	17,358	43,445
Skilled and Semi-skilled.....	38,949	8,023	46,972	46,661	4,679	51,340
Unskilled (a).....	9,374	11,368	20,742	58,409	5,187	63,596

(a) Includes farm hands and fishermen.

SELECTED LABOUR MARKET INDICATORS

1944 — 1945 — 1946

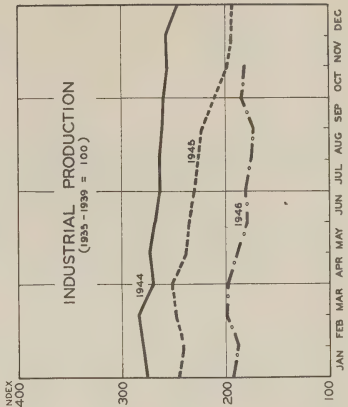
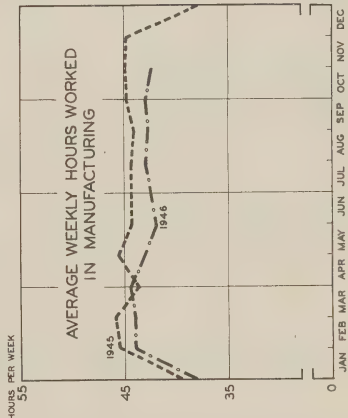
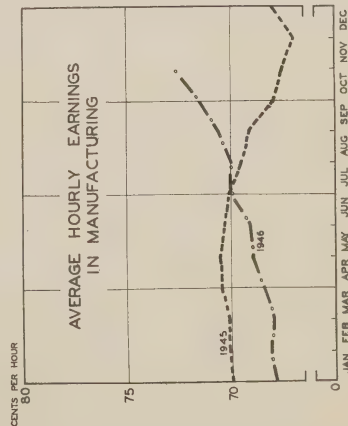
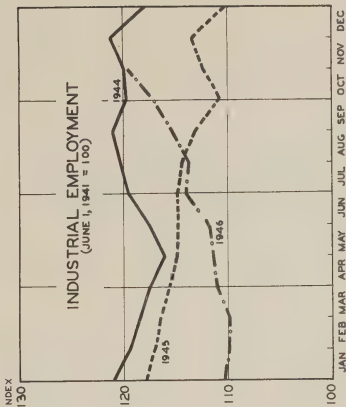
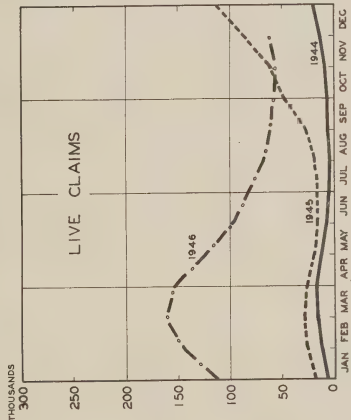
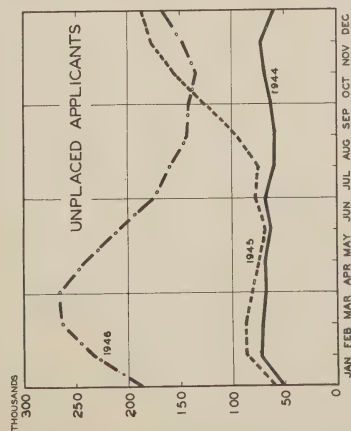


Table IV--Economic Indicators of the Canadian Labour Market

Note:--All figures pertain to the reporting date nearest the first of each month, except for those on strikes and lockouts, and industrial production, which are taken during the month. Latest figures are subject to revision.

Indicators	Nov. 1939	Nov. 1940	Nov. 1941	Nov. 1942	Nov. 1943	Nov. 1944	Nov. 1945	Oct. 1946	Nov. 1946
Employment (a) -									
Index (av. 1926 = 100)...	123.6	137.8	165.4	180.4	185.6	181.1	169.4	176.7	180.3
(June 1, 1941 = 100)	-	-	109.4	119.3	122.8	120.0	112.3	117.1	119.5
Number (thousands).....	1,327	1,479	1,776	1,937	1,993	1,944	1,819	1,895	1,936
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	440	443
Unemployment (b) -									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	69.9	156.4	142.5	134.3
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	39.3	120.3	111.5	102.7
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	-	30.6	36.1	31.0	31.6
Live Claims -									
Total (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	1.3	8.0	61.6	57.7	57.0
Male (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	0.6	5.2	43.7	41.0	39.9
Female (thousands).....	-	-	-	-	0.7	2.8	17.9	16.7	17.1
Earnings (a) -									
Aggregate payroll									
(June 1, 1941 = 100)	-	-	116.7	139.5	150.6	149.9	139.2	150.1	154.0
Per capita weekly earnings	-	-	27.10	29.85	31.59	32.30	32.03	33.25	33.42
Cost of Living (c) -									
(Av. 1935-39 = 100).....	103.8	107.8	116.3	118.6	119.4	118.9	119.9	126.8	127.1
Man-hours and hourly earnings (a) -									
Average hours per week...	-	-	-	-	-	46.3	44.9	42.8	42.4
Average hourly earnings..	-	-	-	-	-	70.3	67.6	71.4	72.7
Strikes and lockouts (b)									
Number.....	14	13	12	26	28	12	24	27	18
Workers involved									
(thousands).....	4.9	3.7	4.7	20.4	18.2	1.7	31.1	32.9	8.2
Man-working days lost									
(thousands).....	36.4	15.2	41.8	103.4	103.6	5.1	422.7	393.3	33.9
Industrial Production (d) -									
(Av. 1935-39 = 100).....	118.8	149.8	202.3	239.3	282.5	255.4	197.7	184.2	180.2

(a) Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.P.S. (All figures are based on the nine leading industries except man-hours and hourly earnings, which apply to manufacturing only).

(b) Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Department of Labour.

(c) Source: Prices and Cost of Living Branch, D.P.S.

(d) Source: Business Statistics Branch, D.B.S.

WORKING WIVES, THEIR INCOMES, AND THE NEW INCOME TAX

Many of the married women now in the labour force are greatly concerned about the recent change in the Income Tax Act and its effect on their 1947 earnings. The effects of the new tax regulation have often been exaggerated by misunderstanding, and it is frequently referred to as an "attempt to drive women out of the labour market after enticing them into it during the war". Calm consideration of the effect of the new regulation, however, will show that it is not nearly so drastic a measure.

It is important to clear up misunderstandings concerning this aspect of the new tax regulations since there are many thousands of married women in the labour market. At present, for instance, 28 per cent of all employed women are married. Such workers amount to about 310,000.

Marital exemption now based on degree of financial support provided wife-- The change in the Income Tax Act became effective on January 1, 1947. It reduces the exemption of \$1,500 allowed a married man according to the income of his wife in excess of \$250. The principle is that a husband should claim the full allowance for the support of his wife only when he does support her in full, and, therefore, this allowance should be reduced according to the wife's ability to support herself. A wife is allowed an income of \$250 tax free; the exemption granted to her husband for her support is \$750, to be added to his own exemption of \$750; if she earns \$750 or less, her earnings over \$250 must be subtracted from her husband's wifely exemption thus decreasing his total exemption of \$1,500. If she earns more than \$750, this exceeds the allowance granted for her support and her husband will be taxed as single, his exemption, of course, being \$750.

Full marital exemption granted during war-- Since 1942, a husband has been granted the full married exemption regardless of his wife's earnings. This gave a husband an allowance for his wife's support even though she may have been supporting herself entirely. The total exemption of a married couple where both were working was, therefore, much greater than for any other two taxpayers, and this created much discontent among single women and among married couples where the wife did not work. However, the services of married women were so valuable as to outweigh all other factors. The recent tax change removes this special privilege which was only justifiable during the emergency.

Before 1942, a husband could claim the full married exemption even if his wife earned up to \$750. This also brought criticism from single persons and married couples where the wife did not work.

Tax increase for working couples very slight-- Working couples, worrying about their decreased exemption, in many cases do not realize that their

combined tax increase is not very great. Offsetting factors are the rise in the total married exemption from \$1,200 to \$1,500, the raising of the single exemption from \$660 to \$750, and the general reduction in tax rates. The net result is not "working for the Government if the wife earns more than \$250", but merely paying taxes which place working wives on a par with the remainder of the tax-paying public.

Tax position of working couples in U.S. and U.K.--In the United States, a married couple has two options. The husband and wife may file returns and pay taxes as separate persons; or, if the husband wishes to claim the married allowance, he must include all his wife's income with his own, in which case the wife's income is taxed at top rates for the combined income.

In England, a husband is required to include in his own tax return all his wife's earned income in excess of £110, and thereby his tax is increased in most cases to a much greater extent than under the new Canadian law.

Effects of war on employed women--In Canada, it is important to relate this taxation change to the labour market situation, both past and present, because its impact on employment conditions will depend, in part, upon their nature.

It is undoubtedly true that many women, both single and married, were drawn into the labour force during the war years. Well-known is the fact that the demands of war placed a tremendous strain upon the nation's manpower resources. It was to meet the consequent shortages of manpower that more and more women were absorbed into industry.

In 1944, for instance, there were 1,223,000 persons employed in manufacturing industries. Of these, 351,000 were women workers. In 1940, the number of women workers in manufacturing was only 166,000. In addition, the proportion of women workers in manufacturing was at its peak in 1944. In 1939, out of every 1,000 workers 220 were women. In 1944, this proportion had jumped to 287.

Earnings of women also rose during the war period. The average weekly earnings of female workers rose from \$12.78 in 1939 to \$20.89 in 1944. During 1945, the latter level of earnings was maintained, if not increased. The redistribution of the female labour force which occurred after the collapse of highly-paid war industry, has probably meant, however, that average female weekly earnings were slightly less in 1946.

Table I--Female Earnings and Employment, 1939-1946

(Source: Employment and Payrolls Branch, D.B.S.)

Year	Average Weekly Earnings in Manufacturing	Employment at Oct. 1 (in 000's)			
		Manufacturing		All Industries	
		Females Employed	Per Cent Of Total	Females Employed	Per Cent Of Total
1939.....	\$12.78	153	24	569	27
1940.....	13.52	-	-	-	-
1941.....	15.05	192	19	673	26
1942.....	17.41	-	-	-	-
1943.....	19.33	351	28	950	33
1944.....	20.89	344	28	966	34
1945.....	-	266	26	898	33
1946.....	-	247	24	901	32

CHART 1. FEMALE UNFILLED VACANCIES
ACCORDING TO WAGES OFFERED
AS AT NOVEMBER 1, 1946

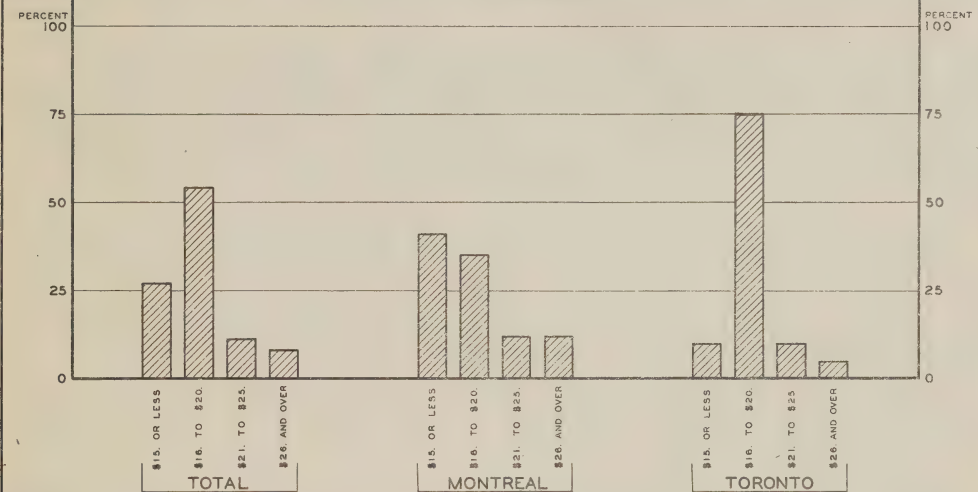
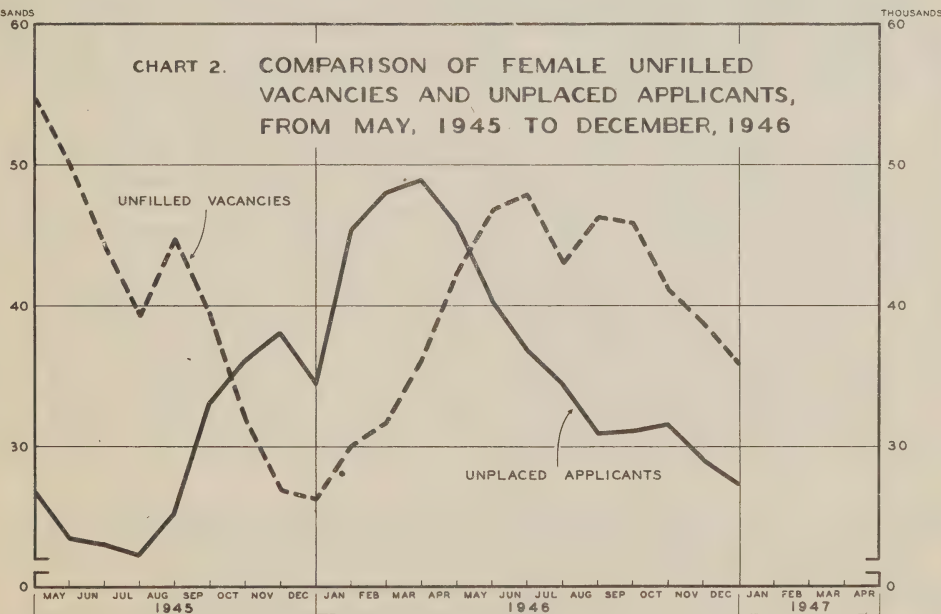


CHART 2. COMPARISON OF FEMALE UNFILLED
VACANCIES AND UNPLACED APPLICANTS,
FROM MAY, 1945 TO DECEMBER, 1946



The above statements, which apply to all women, would also apply to married women in the labour force. Many were drawn into industrial jobs during the war. Their earnings increased considerably. Since the end of the war, many have gone back to their homes, but a greater proportion than in 1939 are still working. Their current earnings, although slightly lower than those in 1944 and 1945, are still well above the 1939 level. It is against the background of these developments that the effect of the new tax regulations on working couples must be viewed.

Current labour market conditions for women--The current job situation for women is also significant. An analysis, on a weekly wage basis, of the unfilled vacancies for women that were registered at the Montreal and Toronto offices of the National Employment Service at November 1, 1946, provides some information.

As can be seen in Chart 1, approximately 54 per cent of the jobs available at the two major Employment Service offices at November 1, 1946, were in the \$16 to \$20 a week wage group, while 27 per cent were in the \$15 or less category. In Montreal, where the shortage of women is great, 41 per cent of the female unfilled vacancies were in the \$15 or less group and 35 per cent were in the \$16 to \$20 group. In Toronto, where the female labour shortage is most acute, 75 per cent of all female unfilled vacancies were in the \$16 to \$20 a week bracket.

In connection with the above data, however, it must be remembered that not all jobs are currently registered with the Employment Service. In fact, it is possible that a greater proportion of the low-paying jobs than of the higher-paying positions are thus reported. In addition, a study of the wages of jobs listed at any one point in time would likely give a general picture of lower-paying jobs than would be obtained from a study of the jobs listed during any period of time. It is probable that the higher-paying jobs are more quickly filled than those with relatively low wages. Both of these factors would tend to give the above wage picture a downward bias. Nevertheless, the picture that is presented is a significant one as it shows the wages associated with the jobs from which any one applicant would be choosing at that time.

The trend of female unplaced applicants and unfilled vacancies registered at offices of the National Employment Service is also significant. This picture is presented in Chart 2. As can be seen, since May, 1946, vacancies have greatly exceeded applicants. The shortage has been especially acute in the expanding consumer goods industries such as clothing, textiles, leather goods, and electrical apparatus manufacturing. This Fall, the slackening of seasonal industry has eased the situation somewhat but a gap still exists.

In summary, then, the current labour market situation for women is one of general shortage. In addition, the wages of unfilled jobs are running considerably above the 1939 level and probably not much below that of 1944 and 1945. In the face of these conditions, an attempt to "drive married women out of the labour market" would almost surely create more difficulties than it would solve. The new tax regulations for working couples does not, of course, intend to do this.

New regulations mean only a slight tax increase--Examination of the effect of the new income tax regulation must take into account both the earnings of the husband and the earnings of the wife. Chart 3 shows the weekly combined tax increase of 1947 over 1946 for married couples where the husband is earning from \$1,000 to \$2,000 per annum and the wife from \$12 to \$25 a week.

It is noticeable that a jump in the combined weekly tax occurs when the wife's earnings move from \$14 to \$15 a week for all husband-earning groups. This is the point at which her earnings exceed \$750, when her husband, therefore, loses the benefit of his married exemption. By disposing of \$30 of her

income in the form of a gift, the wife's earnings will be within the exemption category and the weekly increase in taxes at the \$15 wife-earning level will be less sudden for all husband-earning groups. It should be noted that for no income group is the weekly combined increase greater than \$1.80, and if the average husband with a working wife is considered as earning \$1,800 a year⁽¹⁾ and the average wife as earning from \$18 to \$20 a week, the weekly tax increase is \$1.65, or only 3 per cent of the combined weekly earnings.

Combined earnings of working couples little affected by new tax--Any contention that under the new tax regulations a working wife can make little contribution to the combined income of herself and her husband is, of course, far from the truth. The following table shows this clearly. It gives the amount by which a wife's earnings increase the combined net income of the couple, taking into account the larger tax paid by the husband because of his lower exemption.

Table II--Amount by which Wife's Earnings Increase the Combined Net Income

(Source: Department of Finance)

Wife's Earnings		Annual Earnings of Husband				
		\$1,250	\$1,500	\$1,800	\$2,000	\$2,500
Weekly	Yearly	Net Increase in Combined Weekly Earnings				
\$10.....	\$ 520.....	\$ 9.92	\$ 8.85	\$ 8.70	\$ 8.70	\$ 8.55
11.....	572.....	10.70	9.60	9.45	9.45	9.28
12.....	624.....	11.48	10.35	10.20	10.20	9.99
13.....	676.....	12.26	11.10	10.95	10.95	10.71
14.....	728.....	13.03	11.85	11.70	11.70	11.43
#15.....	780.....	13.36	12.16	12.02	12.02	11.73
16.....	832.....	13.39	12.18	12.01	11.90	11.61
17.....	884.....	14.17	12.97	12.80	12.68	12.39
18.....	936.....	14.95	13.75	13.58	13.46	13.17
19.....	988.....	15.73	14.53	14.36	14.24	13.95
20.....	1,040.....	16.49	15.29	15.12	15.00	14.71
21.....	1,092.....	17.24	16.04	15.87	15.75	15.46
22.....	1,144.....	17.99	16.79	16.62	16.50	16.21
23.....	1,196.....	18.74	17.54	17.37	17.25	16.96
24.....	1,248.....	19.49	18.29	18.12	18.00	17.71
25.....	1,300.....	20.24	19.04	18.87	18.75	18.46
30.....	1,560.....	23.99	22.79	22.62	22.50	22.21

#Assuming that wife has disposed of \$30 of her income in the form of a gift.

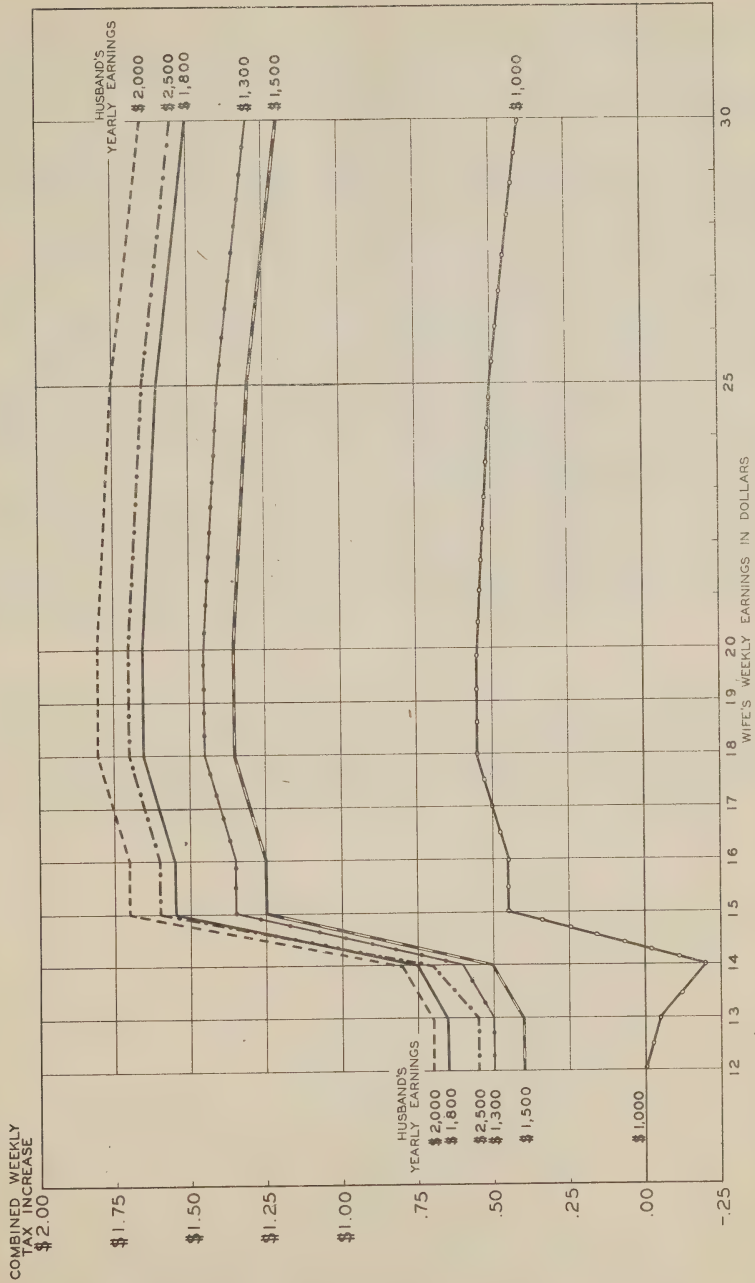
These figures should dispel any doubts as to whether or not a working wife contributes to the net income of herself and her husband under the new tax. Turning again to what is likely the most typical case, that is where the husband is earning \$1,800 a year and the wife about \$19 a week, it is seen that \$14.36 of the wife's gross income represents an addition to the combined net income of the working couple. In other words, in this case, 75 per cent of the wife's gross income represents an addition to the combined net income.

Conclusion--In summary, there are three factors which will affect the income tax of a married employee in 1947:

1. The increase in the personal exemption from \$660 to \$750 in the case of

COMBINED WEEKLY TAX INCREASE OF 1947 OVER 1946 FOR WORKING COUPLES

(AT SELECTED INCOME LEVELS)



SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS BRANCH - DEPT. OF LABOUR - CHART M.2-F.1

single persons and from \$1,200 to \$1,500 in the case of married persons.

2. The general reduction in the rates of tax.

3. The reduction of the husband's exemption when his wife has an income of her own in excess of \$250 a year.

These three factors have a different effect on the income tax of the husband and wife when taken separately. WIFE -- In every case where the wife has been taxable, she will either pay no tax at all or a lower tax in 1947 than in 1946 on the same income. This is because her taxable classification will remain unchanged (single), because she will benefit by the increase in exemption from \$660 to \$750, and because she will also benefit by the general reduction in rates of tax. HUSBAND -- In the case of a husband, the exemption in 1946 was \$1,200 regardless of his wife's earned income. In 1947, if his wife's income is less than \$750, his exemption will be \$1,500 reduced by the amount of her income in excess of \$250. If the wife's income is more than \$750, his exemption will be \$750. On the other hand, the increase in the husband's tax resulting from any such reduction in his exemption is moderated by the lower rates of tax in effect in 1947. HUSBAND AND WIFE COMBINED -- If the income of the wife is not in excess of \$250, neither husband nor wife will be taxed in respect of the wife's income. The total tax paid by the family will be the tax at the new and lower rates applicable to a married man with an exemption of \$1,500. In other cases, the combined tax payable by the family will generally be higher than their total combined tax in 1946, but any increase will be relatively small because of the higher personal exemptions and the lowered tax rates.

(1) The national average of total per capita weekly earnings at November 1, 1946, was \$33.42. The average weekly earnings for male workers would be slightly above this figure as the lower level of female earnings would depress the total figure. The average male wage and salary worker is, therefore, in about the \$1,800 per annum category.

OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

Agriculture

Agricultural activity at National Employment Service offices experienced its usual seasonal slackening during November. The current demands have been for permanent help which continues to be difficult to obtain.

The arrival of Polish veterans has eased the shortage somewhat. Latest reports from farmers indicate the success of the immigration scheme.

Average weekly placements into agriculture totalled 400 during November, representing a sharp drop from the number reported for October.

Non-agricultural

The stimulated activity of the Christmas season cushioned the dropping off in activity in the seasonal industries. Expansion of employment during this season will draw workers into the employment stream who are normally not in the labour market. Therefore, while the level of employment is boosted by the temporary absorption of students and married women, many of the unskilled workers released from railway maintenance and construction work cannot obtain employment.

During November, the employment offices were faced with a heavy work-load of these seasonal workers, many of whom are in the older age bracket and unskilled. Referral and placement activity continued at the October level during the month, while the backlog of vacancies was steadily depleted.

Positions available at the end of November were slightly over the 100,000 mark with more than one-third of these confined to the logging industry.

Vacancies Notified

Offsetting winter slump--The seasonality of Canada's economy has resulted in a continual series of shortages and surpluses of labour within a relatively short period of time. It is in smoothing these "ups and downs" that an organized labour market encounters its most serious difficulty.

Employment offices now are faced with a heavy work-load of applicants while orders for workers are steadily falling off. A pertinent question now is, in what industries are winter employment opportunities available? The logging industry, and to a lesser extent the mining industry, offers the greatest potential sources of winter employment. Expansion in these industries, however, is largely dependent upon the availability of skilled labour.

Some alleviation of the present unemployment situation might be effected by an all-out attempt of private and governmental industries to undertake repair, alteration, and inside construction activity wherever possible. This would not only absorb the currently available construction workers but would also partially ward off the pending labour shortage of the summer months.

The heavy consumer demand for building materials and durable goods is currently providing a year-round buoyancy in employment in these industries. An undeveloped but highly potential cushion for slackening summer industries is offered by the winter tourist industry, accompanied by growth of a Canadian handicraft trade.

Current employment declines--A general slump in vacancy reporting was noted in all industry groups except logging and the Christmas-active trades during November. However, the rate of slackening has been less severe than at the comparative period in 1945.

Currently, the most pronounced declines took place in mining, construction, and transportation industries. Shrinkage of labour needs in the mining industry is largely due to the heavy movement of off-season agricultural help to the mines during the winter months. Seasonal slowdowns because of winter weather accounted for the sharp drop in work-orders in the construction and transportation industries. The shadow cast by the United States coal strike together with the approaching holiday season lessened labour needs in the manufacturing industries.

Approximately 38,000 vacancies were notified per week in non-agricultural industries during November. The dropping off in employment prospects was entirely confined to male workers and took place largely in the Maritime and Western provinces.

Expanding employment opportunities—The accelerated activity of the Christmas season resulted in a flood of orders for sales clerks and post office help. Employment offices report that these needs have been met without serious difficulty. The general staff expansion undertaken throughout industry since the cessation of hostilities has eased the pressure of intensified seasonal activity in many businesses. Married women, high school and college students, and the seasonally unplaced will provide the main source of temporary aid.

Labour needs in the logging industry reported during November were almost one-third greater than during November, 1945. Despite these continued heavy labour requirements, logging operators report that the number of men available has considerably exceeded expectations. Migration of workers to the woods will slacken prior to the Christmas shut-down but recruiting activity will be renewed at the beginning of the new year. Employment offices report that the prevailing high-wage scale has made woods work considerably more attractive this year than previously.

Inroad cut into vacancy backlog—Vacancies on file dwindled steadily during November. With more applicants and fewer jobs reported the number of unfilled vacancies at the month-end were almost 20 per cent below that of four weeks earlier.

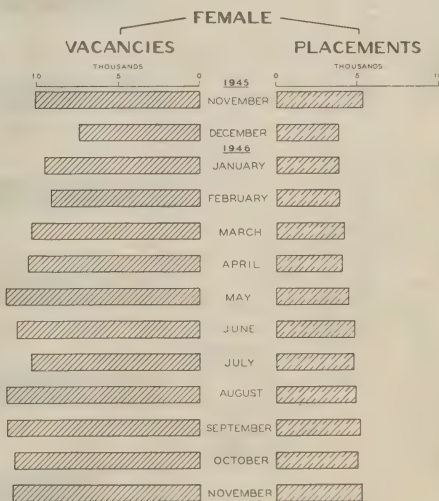
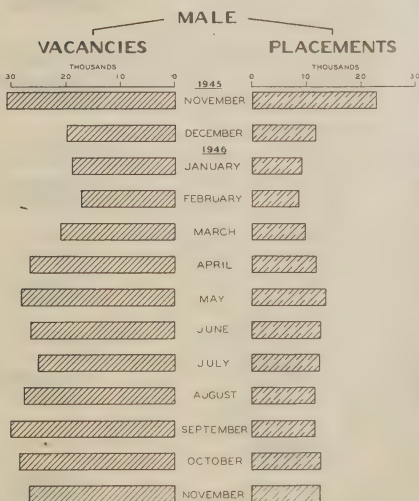
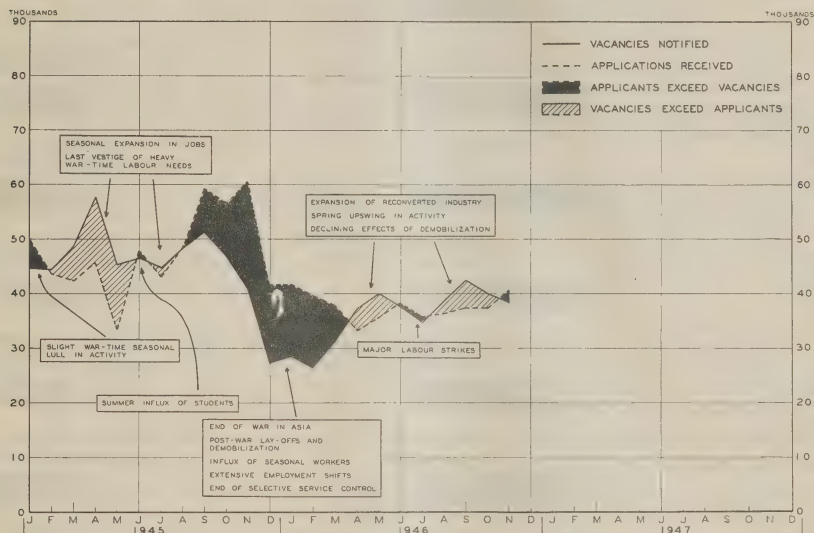
Applicants Registering

Staggering the work-load—As the work-load of applicants reaches its heaviest proportions, it may prove helpful to examine various means which the United States Employment Service has currently adopted to stagger the large influx of workers. When self-registration methods were unable to efficiently cope with the growing stream of applicants, a public appeal was made to workers to visit during off-hours and to employers to stagger the days of lay-offs.

In some cases, workers were allowed to complete application forms at home and interviews were scheduled for specific times. This arrangement not only alleviated the pressure on the local office staff but received full co-operation from applicants who had formerly been compelled to wait several hours before being attended to.

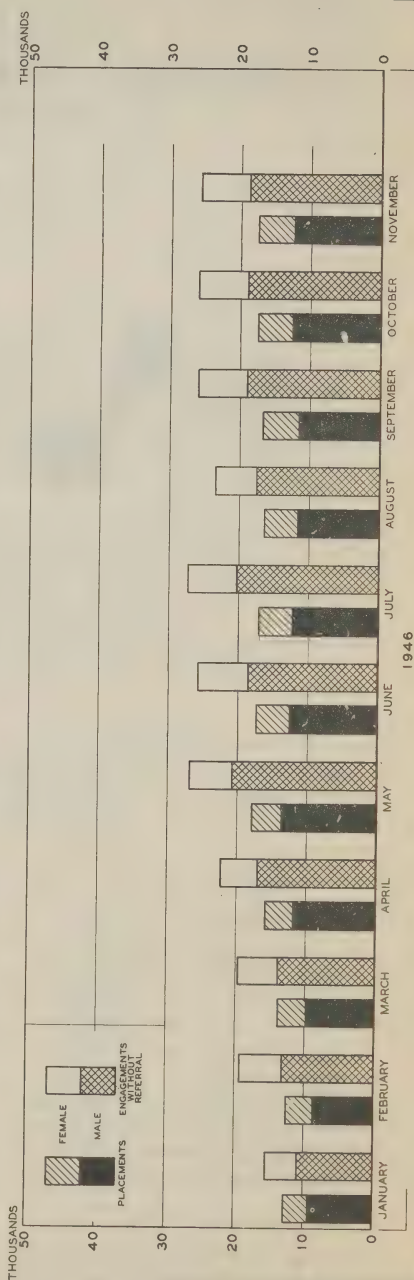
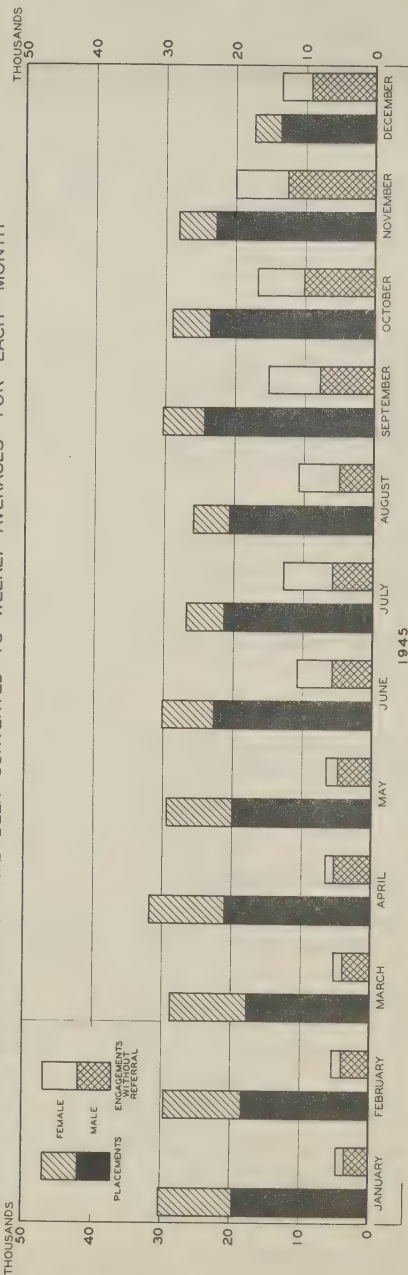
Training unemployed—The need for further training of applicants becomes more apparent as the unplaced increase while employment opportunities continue unsatisfied. The wide variety of training courses authorized under the Unemployment Insurance Act indicates the abundant opportunities for fitting suitable workers and jobs together. However, the scope is presently limited

OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE ON A COMPARATIVE MONTHLY BASIS



PLACEMENTS BY THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE AS COMPARED WITH WORKERS OBTAINING THEIR OWN JOBS

NOTE: FIGURES HAVE BEEN CONVERTED TO WEEKLY AVERAGES FOR EACH MONTH



by the overwhelming demand of ex-service personnel for training. As this need gradually subsides, the Employment Service will have at its disposal a valuable weapon for overcoming maladjustments in the labour market.

More applicants register--Applications for work reached the 41,000 mark per week in November as released construction, agricultural, and transportation workers became available. In addition, there was a heavy influx of college and high school students seeking temporary Christmas work.

The level is comparable to that attained in January, 1946. It is, however, approximately one-third below that of November, 1945. The brunt of new registrations fell most heavily on Quebec, British Columbia, and the Prairie provinces. The jump in applications was entirely due to additional men seeking work while female applications indicated a slight downward movement.

Applications start to accumulate--Applications for work during November were filed more rapidly than positions could be found. Consequently, the number of unplaced applicants mounted steadily. At the end of November, 146,000 persons were unplaced, representing a nine per cent increase over the number quoted four weeks earlier.

More job seekers than vacancies during November--The labour market, as depicted by vacancies and job-seekers available at Employment Service offices, changed from a surplus supply of jobs to an excess of unplaced workers during November. The change-over affected the Prairie provinces most severely, where vacancies represented approximately 63 per cent of applications as compared with an overall total of 94 per cent. Similarly, vacancies in the Maritime provinces and British Columbia represented less than two-thirds of the number of work applications. The lack of industrial diversification in these provinces accentuates the degree of seasonal fluctuations.

Referrals

With unemployment growing rapidly, more workers are available to employers "at the gate". Consequently the need becomes more urgent for exacting screening processes in order to make the Employment Service a community hiring centre. To safeguard most effectively against gate-post hirings the employer must be convinced that the Employment Service eliminates this time-consuming interviewing by screening workers and referring only suitable applicants to him. At the same time, unemployed persons will realize that the Employment Service dispenses with the "door to door" search for work which is both time-wasting and discouraging. The successful operation of an organized labour market requires the participants to have a realization of the employment situation. If existing surpluses and shortages in the labour market are generally known, compromises are more readily accepted by both employer and employee, thus encouraging the flexibility in the employment stream. Regular press releases, community meetings, school gatherings and service organizations afford opportunities for employment office officials to get the public acquainted with the employment situation.

Referral activity maintained--Referrals continued to increase during November, due to the large number of workers referred to logging camps. Non-agricultural referrals averaged 28,000 per week during the month. Out of every 100 jobs available (the number on file at the beginning and those reported during the month) there was an average of 40 applicants referred to specific jobs. This represented only a slight decline over the October ratio. A similar ratio of applicants and referrals indicated that referrals dropped

from 42 to 38 per 100 applications during November. These ratios indicate that job filling has been progressing at practically a constant level but that the employment stream is unable to cope with the current increase in applications.

Placements

A high level of placements does not necessarily indicate an effective placement service. Effective placements are reflected in a continual reduction in labour turnover together with a steadily growing community spirit sponsoring the objectives of the Employment Service.

The extent to which placements are effective is largely dependent upon the specialization of the Service. Highly trained employment officers within specialized fields can render expert service beyond that available in many industries.

This specialization of the Service has been one of its main objectives since the commencement of the co-ordinated system of employment offices. In the early twenties specialized divisions were formed to deal with demobilized servicemen (later specializing in placement of handicapped veterans), women, juveniles, and the business and executive class. During the late twenties and the thirties, however, practically all these services were discontinued except that for disabled veterans. These specialized fields have been revived and greatly extended during the past few years and at the present time facilities are also available to seamen. Lack of publicity and shortage of adequately trained staff are two of the chief obstacles presently confronting rapid development along these lines.

Current placement level constant--Placement activity continued at the October level as the winter expansion of the logging industry compensated the slackening in activity elsewhere. Labour mobility, as indicated by the movement of workers to fill jobs, increased markedly in November as the all-out effort made by employment offices to recruit woods labour reached a high level. Placement of seven days duration or less continued to comprise almost one-tenth of the appointments. Placements effected by National Employment Service in industries other than agriculture totalled about 18,000 a week during November.

Effective referral ratio down--A downward trend has been evident in the number of referrals resulting in placements. During labour-shortage periods the effective referral rate is markedly higher than when a "loose" labour market prevails. During August, 66 per cent of referrals resulted in placements whereas in November the percentage fell to 62. With fewer attractive jobs available and more workers obtainable by employers the matching of labour supply and demand becomes more difficult.

Engagements Without Referral

The constant rise in unplaced applicants during November indicates a growing rigidity in the employment stream. It thus appears that even the present artificial stimulus for peak employment is unable to provide off-seasonal work and that the unplaced may reach the 200,000 mark each year. Workers, therefore, will tend to use every means at their disposal to secure employment. Consequently "gate-post" hiring may be expected to increase during off-seasons as the unplaced actively canvass employers to obtain jobs. To offset this situation the Employment Service will undoubtedly be forced to intensify Employer's Relations Work. Mass recruiting of jobs at community

gatherings wherever possible proved a great asset in meeting a similar situation in a United States local office area. Non-agricultural engagements without referral totalled 26,000 a week in November, representing little change from the October level but a 29 per cent increase over the comparative level in 1945.

Separations

Non-agricultural separation rate rises—The release of seasonal workers gained momentum during November as construction work and railway maintenance activity contracted due to winter weather conditions. The growing separation rate in rubber and automobile plants probably indicates both cut-backs due to material shortages and the return to a normal rate of turnover. As employment reaches its pre-strike level logging camps continue to be hampered by a heavy "quit" rate. There was a moderate reduction in the numbers of persons leaving manufacturing establishments, (other than those cited), mining camps, and service jobs. The decline in available job opportunities tends to reduce the voluntary separation rate. Non-agricultural separations averaged 38,000 a week in November. Increases were entirely among men while the female separation rate dropped sharply.

Executive and Professional Offices

The services offered by executive and professional offices are gaining wide acceptance from both employer and employee. Not only is a growing placement service being conducted, but officers are equipped to offer valuable advice to students entering universities or seeking executive positions. Persons already employed have found the the executive and professional offices a great help in bettering their present positions. Those contemplating moving are able to secure information on the employment situation in other local office areas. During November 276 persons per week registered for work at executive and professional offices. Vacancy reporting moved sharply upward bringing the average weekly number of vacancies notified to 220. Securing of additional vacancies of both technical and managerial calibre by the Montreal office accounted largely for the jump. Placements continued at the October level, averaging 57 a week during the current month.

Special Placements Section

Sixteen offices throughout Canada offer specialized services for first-jobbers and those physically or mentally handicapped. In addition, the Toronto Youth Employment Centre, opened May, 1946, has specialized facilities to guide youths under 21 into profitable employment channels. The success of this work is largely dependent upon community co-operation. The forming of advisory committees under the Unemployment Insurance Act has proved an excellent means of co-ordinating activities in this field.

Handicapped placements reach peak—An all-time high in handicap placements was attained during the period October 15 to November 14 when 1,452 disabled persons were placed in jobs. Despite this high placement level the number seeking work increased during the period and at the mid-November date the unplaced stood at 6,585. Lay-offs of older men from construction projects and light factory work is currently putting a heavy work-load on special placements officers. Suitable job opportunities for those men are almost non-existent during the winter months.

Table I—Average Weekly Non-Agricultural Vacancies Notified
And Applicants Registered, by Province, During November, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Province	Average Weekly Vacancies		Average Weekly Applicants	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
CANADA.....	38,285	100	40,606	100
Maritime Provinces.....	2,074	5	3,186	8
Quebec.....	10,269	27	9,869	24
Ontario.....	17,144	45	13,618	33
Prairie Provinces.....	5,026	13	8,016	20
British Columbia.....	3,772	10	5,917	15

Table II—Unreferred Applicants by Age Group and by Sex,
With Percentage Distribution, As At November 28, 1946

(Source: Forms UIC 757-759)

Age Group	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
TOTAL.....	100,100	100	26,440	100	126,540	100
Under 20.....	10,120	10	4,691	18	14,811	12
20 - 44.....	56,846	57	18,222	69	75,068	59
45 - 64.....	19,828	20	3,120	12	22,948	18
65 and over.....	13,306	13	407	1	13,713	11

Table III—Average Weekly Placement Operations of Executive
And Professional Offices During November, 1946

(Source: Form UIC 751B)

Offices	Applications	Vacancies	Referrals	Placements
TOTAL.....	276	220	178	57
Moncton.....	9	13	8	5
Montreal.....	105	101	52	25
Toronto.....	99	74	74	15
Winnipeg.....	15	21	23	6
Vancouver.....	48	11	21	6

Table IV—Non-agricultural Vacancies Notified as Reported by the
National Employment Service, November, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Vacancies During Month	Average Weekly Vacancies		
		Number	% Change From	
			October 1946	November 1945
All industries.....	153,138	38,285	- 4.3	- 6.7
Logging.....	35,987	8,997	+15.4	+29.2
Mining.....	3,353	838	-22.4	-37.4
Manufacturing.....	40,518	10,130	-12.9	-16.1
Food and kindred products.....	6,510	1,627	-32.6	-29.9
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	7,216	1,804	-10.0	- 3.0
Lumber and finished lumber products	4,154	1,040	-19.1	-24.4
Pulp and paper products and printing	3,642	911	-13.4	-25.0
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,412	353	+ 1.7	-13.3
Products of petroleum and coal.....	288	72	+14.3	+ 9.1
Rubber goods.....	1,401	350	+48.3	- 1.4
Leather and products.....	1,051	263	-14.3	-22.7
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,051	263	-23.1	-16.8
Iron and steel and their products..	3,446	861	-13.0	-17.1
Non-ferrous metals.....	2,261	565	+14.8	+38.5
Machinery.....	3,708	927	-12.6	-10.4
Transportation equipment.....	2,854	714	+19.2	-18.8
Miscellaneous.....	1,519	380	-14.8	-16.9
Construction.....	15,519	3,880	-23.0	-15.0
Transportation and storage.....	6,071	1,518	-21.7	-36.3
Other public utilities.....	1,876	469	- 8.9	+ 2.2
Trade.....	20,374	5,093	+15.8	- 4.5
Finance and insurance.....	2,023	506	-11.7	-23.9
Public and professional service.....	9,185	2,296	+ 1.5	+ 9.1
Other service.....	18,232	4,558	- 4.6	-11.3

Table V--Non-agricultural Placements as Reported by the
National Employment Service, November 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Place- ments During Month	Average Weekly Placements		
		Number	% Change From	
			October 1945	November 1945
All industries.....	70,363	17,591	+ 0.1	-37.5
Logging.....	7,785	1,946	+76.6	-44.5
Mining.....	2,161	540	- 6.1	-45.0
Manufacturing.....	20,175	5,044	- 6.7	-41.9
Food and kindred products.....	3,654	913	-19.1	-49.0
Textiles, apparel, etc.	2,716	679	-11.7	-39.3
Lumber and finished lumber products	2,539	635	- 6.6	-42.4
Pulp and paper products and printing	1,747	437	- 7.2	-42.5
Chemicals and allied products.....	701	175	+ 1.2	-35.4
Products of petroleum and coal.....	171	43	+19.4	+ 4.9
Rubber goods.....	367	92	+ 5.7	-55.8
Leather and products.....	419	105	-16.0	-53.8
Stone, clay and glass products.....	619	155	-16.2	-39.7
Iron and steel and their products...	1,897	471	- 1.3	-45.5
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,243	311	+11.9	+ 4.4
Machinery.....	1,904	476	+ 2.4	-38.5
Transportation equipment.....	1,493	373	+10.0	-45.3
Miscellaneous.....	705	176	- 6.4	-37.2
Construction.....	10,322	2,581	-10.6	-34.6
Transportation and storage.....	3,871	968	-15.5	-52.4
Other public utilities.....	848	212	+ 9.3	-33.3
Trade.....	8,758	2,190	+ 2.6	-38.1
Finance and insurance.....	757	189	-12.9	-50.1
Public and professional service.....	4,702	1,175	- 1.4	-23.1
Other service.....	10,984	2,746	+ 0.7	-14.8

Table VI--Non-agricultural Engagements Without Referral as Reported
by the National Employment Service, November, 1946

(Source: Unemployment Insurance Commission, Form 751B)

Industry	Number of Engage- ments During Month	Average Weekly Engagements		
		Number	% Change From	
			October 1946	November 1945
All industries.....	103,425	25,856	- 0.8	+ 29.1
Logging.....	21,343	5,336	+20.9	+ 16.1
Mining.....	2,969	742	+13.6	+ 89.3
Manufacturing.....	33,852	8,463	- 4.4	+ 43.2
Food and kindred products.....	5,159	1,290	-29.9	+ 16.5
Textiles, apparel, etc.....	5,745	1,436	+ 6.7	+ 17.1
Lumber and finished lumber products	3,640	910	- 4.1	+ 41.1
Pulp and paper products and printing	2,817	704	-16.4	+ 28.9
Chemicals and allied products.....	1,240	310	+19.7	+ 76.1
Products of petroleum and coal.....	265	66	-29.0	+112.9
Rubber goods.....	1,138	285	+87.5	+196.9
Leather and products.....	1,201	300	- 4.5	+ 22.4
Stone, clay and glass products.....	1,171	293	+ 5.8	+ 92.8
Iron and steel and their products..	2,788	697	+13.7	+ 30.5
Non-ferrous metals.....	1,417	354	+ 0.6	+149.3
Machinery.....	3,523	881	+ 0.9	+174.5
Transportation equipment.....	2,471	618	+ 1.0	+ 38.6
Miscellaneous.....	1,277	319	- 4.8	+ 31.8
Construction.....	10,446	2,612	- 7.8	+105.2
Transportation and storage.....	4,744	1,186	-14.0	+ 41.0
Other public utilities.....	1,980	495	+10.7	+124.0
Trade.....	14,186	3,546	+ 4.6	+ 6.5
Finance and insurance.....	1,406	351	-16.6	+ 17.8
Public and professional service.....	5,541	1,385	-17.0	+ 16.5
Other service.....	6,958	1,740	-12.5	- 11.7

ACTIVITIES OF EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL

Demobilization continued to slacken during November. The number released dropped from 7,235 in October to 5,787 with future indications pointing to an even further drop during December. Outside of a few members of the Women's Division of the Air Force, only a small staff of nursing sisters is left in the women's division of the services.

The number of ex-service personnel applying for work at National Employment Service offices remained high in November although relatively unchanged from that of the previous month. Similarly, applications from those previously employed showed an increase of 6 per cent over the figure for the previous month. A substantial reduction in placements was evident although the number in the handicapped group showed an increase. Reinstatements in civil employment continued to decline, following the trend of demobilization.

Lack of job opportunities, rather than an increased flow of workers into the labour market, brought about a sharp gain in the number unplaced at the end of the month. Similarly, those unplaced 15 days or more showed a gain of 3 per cent over that of the previous month. Contrary to the trend during the summer months, both claims and payments of "Out-of-Work Benefits" increased, an indication of the prevailing labour market conditions. The occupational pattern of unplaced ex-servicemen reflects the change from summer to winter activities. There was little change in the percentage of skilled and semi-skilled workers left on record while unskilled advanced 16 points from that of the previous month. According to advance reports, unemployment is increasing and there is little hope of relief until spring activities start.

Education and Training

Relatively little change will take place in the number attending universities until the beginning of January, when the winter term will start. At the present time there are approximately 35,000 veterans enrolled in the various Canadian universities and 1,000 in universities in the United States and Great Britain.

Unlike university training, courses conducted under the Canadian Vocational Training program vary in duration so that there is a steady stream of pupils in and out monthly. At the end of November, 38,299 (34,843 men and 3,456 women) ex-service personnel were in training. Of this number, 13,835 were in C.V.T. schools, 11,525 taking "on the job" training in industry, 7,661 taking pre-matriculation and correspondence courses and 5,278 in private schools. Since the inauguration of the C.V.T. program 104,325 veterans have received training.

Discharges

The number of servicemen demobilized during November continued to drop with 5,787 persons being discharged as compared with 7,235 in October and 11,693 in September.

Of the total number, 5,433 were men and 354 women. Breaking this down into the three forces, 1,298 were discharged from the Navy, 3,531 from the Army and 958 from the Air Force. The corresponding discharges during October were 796, 5,466 and 973. Since the beginning of the war 993,000 persons have been discharged.

At the end of November the effective strength of the armed forces was approximately 46,000. This figure excludes deserters, those missing, those on extended leave and those seconded.

Applications for Employment in National Employment Service Offices

Job seekers remain unchanged—There was relatively little change in the number of ex-service personnel applying for work at National Employment Service offices during November when 45,706 made application as compared with 45,362 in October. Thirty-one per cent of these were seeking work during the last 15 days of the month. In October they constituted 39 per cent of the total. Of the 45,706 job seekers, 41,250 served in World War II, 3,409 in World War I and 1,047 in both wars. World War II veterans applying for work for the first time continued to decrease while the number of those having received previous appointments rose sharply to constitute 60 per cent of the applicants as compared with 54 in October and 51 in September. This situation was brought about by the diminishing flow of recent discharges into the labour market and the fact that many who took seasonal work last spring when discharges were high now are reappearing and seeking work to carry them over until next spring.

Placements

Sharp drop in placements—During October when summer and winter employment overlapped, the number of placements made, rose sharply. This was followed by a decline of 2,700 in November when placements dropped to 20,219. The falling off of placements among ex-servicemen of World War II, both new applicants and revivals, was responsible for this change as the number of placements of World War I applicants remained steady. Of the 20,219 ex-servicemen placed, 18,446 served in World War II, 1,370 in World War I, and the balance in both wars. In addition, 4,799 veterans were referred to specific jobs but their acceptance or rejection by employers had not been received.

The successful placement of handicapped veterans is of great concern to placement officers. While little trouble is encountered in finding jobs for amputees, it is difficult to interest employers in hiring casualties suffering less visible disabilities contracted while in the service. During the period October 15 to November 14 there were 663 veterans placed in jobs, an increase of 30 over the number for the previous period. However, they continued to represent 46 per cent of the total placements in this group. Another 35 applicants were referred to specific jobs but their placement was unconfirmed. An increasing number of unplaced World War II veterans had been previously employed and at November 14 stood at 54 per cent of the total. World War I veterans accounted for 797 or 39 per cent of the total unplaced in this group, an increase of 2 per cent over that for the previous period. At December 14, there were 2,021 disabled veterans unplaced.

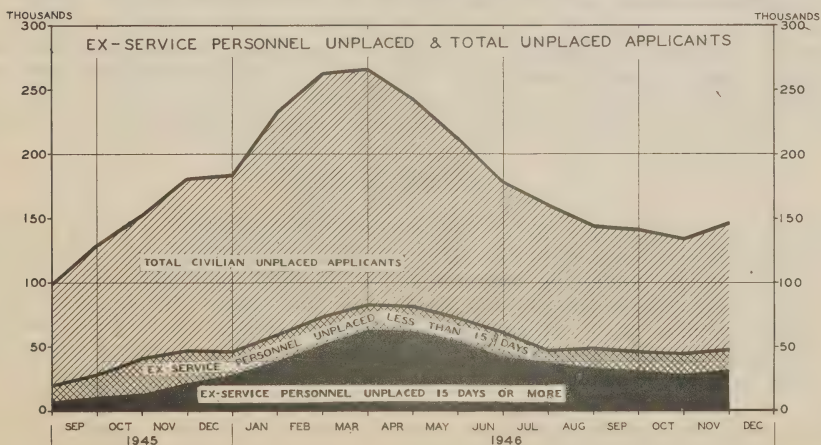
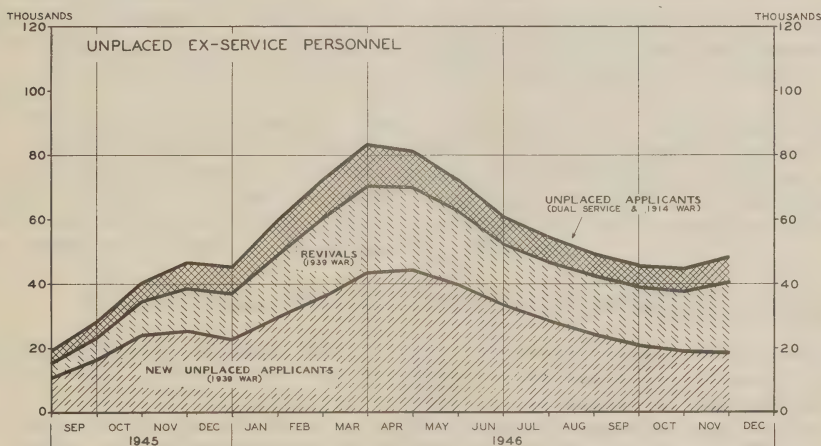
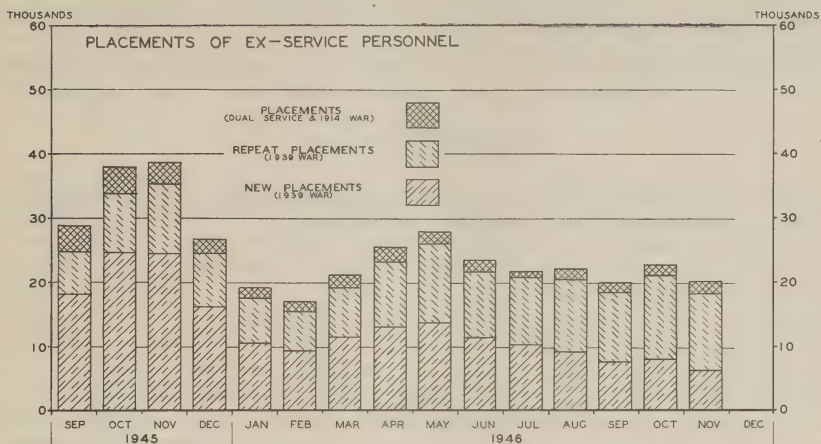
A drop of 3 per cent was recorded in the applicant-to-placement ratio. During November 22 per cent of all those making application during the month and those unplaced at the beginning of the month were placed as compared with 25 per cent in October.

Reinstatements

The sharp decline in the number being reinstated in their pre-war jobs was maintained with only 1,727 persons returned to their former work as compared with 2,420 in October. In addition, 127 persons applied for reinstatement but at the end of the period had not been accepted. If the claims of these persons are in order

APPLICANTS AND PLACEMENTS

EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL



it is only a matter of time until they will be reinstated. It is estimated that only 1 per cent of all veterans applying have needed the assistance of the Re-instatement Authorities to straighten out misunderstandings and only four prosecutions have been necessary under the Act. Since August 1945, approximately 169,230 persons, constituting 25 per cent of the total discharges during the comparative period, have been reinstated in civil employment.

Unplaced Applicants

Unplaced applicants increased 3,200—The number of jobless ex-servicemen at the end of the month rose from 44,854 for October to stand at 48,091 for November. This gain was brought about through the tapering off in summer activities and the lack of extra job opportunities to absorb the influx of workers. Of the 48,091 unplaced ex-servicemen, 31,454 or 65 per cent have been on file for 15 days or more. This is a gain of 3 per cent over the percentage for October which set the low point for 1946 with 62 per cent. That unemployment among veterans is on the increase is evident by the fact that it is forming a greater portion of the total unplaced, even with discharges at their lowest level. During September, October and November, unplaced ex-servicemen have constituted 32, 33, and 34 per cent of all job-seekers on record.

Discharged personnel of World War II only, comprised 84 per cent of all unplaced veterans at the end of the current month, while 12 per cent served in World War I and the balance in both wars. These percentages are unchanged from last month.

Restricted job opportunities have been reflected in the additional number seeking Out-of-Work Benefits as provided under the Post-Discharge Re-establishment Order. At the end of November, 14,976 persons were collecting allowances as compared with 14,390 at the end of October. Also, the number of live claims rose from 19,018 for October to 20,651. It is expected that the demand for assistance under this Order will increase during the winter months.

Occupational Classification of Unplaced Ex-Service Personnel

Seasonal variations evident—The change from summer to winter industries was apparent this month in the percentage increase in the number of jobless construction and agricultural workers and the decrease in the number of clerical and sales workers. This decline was effected by the increased demand for help during the Christmas trade. A drop of 13 points was reported in the number seeking professional and managerial positions. There was a gain of 1 point in the percentage of skilled and semi-skilled workers left on file while unskilled workers gained 16 points. At the end of November, 54 per cent of jobless veterans were classified as skilled while 36 per cent were unskilled. The corresponding percentages for all applications during this period were 29 per cent skilled and 37 per cent unskilled.

Future Prospects

According to estimates, discharges from the armed forces are not to exceed 3,500 in December, 3,000 in January and 2,000 in February. Now that demobilization has reached such a low level, the work of the employment officers is becoming a matter of fitting jobless ex-servicemen who have been previously employed into the very limited number of openings now available. An effort is being made to direct unplaced applicants into alternative positions when the type of work they have asked for is not obtainable. If training is necessary, the applicant may be given a short course to fit him for the job. Unemployment will increase throughout the winter months, and may cause hardships to many whose out-of-work benefits have expired.

Manufacturing companies will continue to take on workers to fill vacancies as they arise but no further large-scale hiring is expected until spring. The demand for workers to go to the woods continues to be high and many ex-servicemen will probably accept this work.

Table I—Discharges from Armed Forces and Applications of World War II
Dischargees by Months, November, 1945 to November, 1946

(Source: Department of National Defence and Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Discharges	Applications	
		New Applicants	Revivals
November, 1945.....	65,398	37,726	20,329
December ".....	38,240	24,934	16,133
January, 1946.....	56,849	27,641	18,568
February ".....	65,235	25,025	17,075
March ".....	70,646	30,400	18,271
April ".....	55,762	26,288	16,874
May ".....	38,476	25,216	19,807
June ".....	22,897	20,166	18,961
July ".....	20,259	20,346	20,807
August ".....	18,443	18,972	21,471
September ".....	11,693	16,330	21,242
October ".....	7,235	16,552	24,547
November ".....	5,787	13,912	27,338

Table II—Live Applications and Placements of Ex-Servicemen
With Civilian Comparison, November, 1945 to November, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B and Form U.I.C. 751B)

Month	Live Applications (1)	Placements (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per. cent (3)	Civilian Equivalents of (3)
November, 1945.....	106,955	38,674	36.2	29.5
December ".....	93,652	26,653	28.5	21.4
January, 1946.....	98,002	19,454	19.9	15.7
February ".....	106,295	16,831	15.8	12.9
March ".....	125,474	21,228	16.9	14.7
April ".....	130,062	25,505	19.6	17.2
May ".....	130,206	28,522	21.9	19.6
June ".....	115,432	23,654	20.5	21.5
July ".....	106,429	23,776	22.3	23.6
August ".....	99,379	22,175	22.3	24.2
September ".....	90,855	20,106	22.1	26.8
October ".....	91,504	22,952	25.1	26.9
November ".....	90,560	20,219	22.3	25.0

Table III—Unplaced Ex-servicemen and Those Unplaced 15 Days or More as at the End of the Month, November, 1945 to November, 1946

(Source: Form U.I.C. 7550B)

Month	Unplaced Ex-service- men (1)	Ex-servicemen Unplaced 15 Days or more (2)	Comparison of (2) with (1) Per Cent
November 30, 1945.....	46,503	20,775	44.7
December, 31 "	45,974	27,887	60.7
January 31, 1946.....	59,861	37,364	62.4
February 28 "	72,305	50,286	69.5
March 31 "	83,029	61,018	73.5
April 30 "	81,207	61,292	75.5
May 31 "	72,370	52,722	72.9
June 30 "	61,168	44,587	72.9
July 31 "	54,735	37,765	69.0
August 31 "	49,526	33,504	67.6
September 30 "	46,147	31,062	67.3
October 31 "	44,854	27,854	62.1
November 30 "	48,091	31,454	65.4

Table IV—Number of Ex-Service Personnel Claiming Out-of-Work Benefits and Number of Benefit Payments made, February to November, 1946

(Source: Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Date	Live Claims as at End of Month	Benefit Payments During Last Week of Month
February, 1946.....	30,473	19,715
March "	43,729	34,637
April "	41,857	32,364
May "	37,291	33,297
June "	30,677	25,051
July "	25,463	20,713
August "	21,939	19,321
September "	20,870	16,533
October "	19,018	14,390
November "	20,651	14,976

EMPLOYMENT TRENDS IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES

Automobiles and Parts

Electrical Apparatus

1. Automobiles and Parts

Unsettled employment conditions continue--The last few weeks of the year saw little improvement in the instability of employment which has been a highlight of the automotive industry during 1946.

Uncertainties in the flow of materials from hundreds of supplier plants forced reductions in the work-week or lay-offs several times during the year in the major plants. During November, for example, while General Motors was working steadily, Ford laid off 2,500 workers in Windsor and was operating on a five-day week schedule with the remaining employees. No major strikes have occurred since the settlement of the Chrysler strike on October 19.

Estimated employment now near 36,000--Employment showed a slight increase during October, rising from an estimated 34,400 at the beginning of the month to about 35,700 at November 1, 1946.

This latter figure is 10,000 more than that for the same date in 1945, when the industry was at a low ebb of activity due to reconversion. Since this reconversion period, material shortages and labour disputes have prevented the industry from returning to its wartime employment peak--slightly over 40,000.

Wage increase in the Windsor area--Increases of 12 cents an hour to all employees were granted recently by the Ford Motor Company and four smaller parts plants in the Windsor area--Bendix-Eclipse Company, Penberthy Ejector Company, Walker Metal Products, and Auto Specialties Manufacturing Company (Canada).

These increases, together with other pay boosts previously granted in most sections of the industry, will serve as a brake against a continued decline in earnings resulting from the shortening of the work-week. Although wage rates have been rising, the shorter hours and less overtime pay have cut sharply into gross earnings, and the average worker in this industry earned less in 1946 than in 1945.

At November 1, 1946, per capita weekly earnings stood at \$37.13, as compared to \$39.62 at the same date in 1945. This downtrend in earnings is the reverse of that in manufacturing as a whole, where the figures for the same dates were \$33.48 and \$32.65.

Table I shows the trend of per capita weekly earnings since 1941.

Table I--Per Capita Weekly Earnings in the Automobile and Parts Industry

(Source: Employment Statistics Br., Dominion Bureau of Statistics.)

Date	1941	1943	1945	1946
	\$	\$	\$	\$
January 1.....	-- #	37.18	36.06	33.66
April 1.....	-- #	42.26	42.06	41.83
July 1.....	36.67	41.87	40.22	38.06
October 1.....	34.60	41.61	39.62	36.55

Major price increase announced--A price increase of 10 per cent for cars and 7 per cent for trucks was announced on December 17, 1946, by W.P.T.B. This increase, together with other minor increases which most manufacturers had made during the year, brings the selling price of the average car to about 11 per cent above its 1945 level.

No immediate repercussions on demand or employment are expected. In the immediate future, the domestic and export market is quite capable of absorbing all the vehicles produced. Eventually, however, price resistance and a narrowing of the market can be expected to develop. When this happens, the automotive industry, based as it is on the combination of sales to a mass market and the economies of mass production techniques, will be forced to scale down prices. In the long run, only volume production can hold prices down.

November production up--During November, production of all types of automobiles topped 19,000, over 20 per cent above the October figure. This was the second highest monthly production achieved since the end of the war, the May production being slightly over 20,000 units.

Production during 1946 was at about the same level as a normal peacetime year. In the first eleven months of the year, 155,000 vehicles of all types were turned out, 60,000 of which were destined for the export market. December's production should bring the total up to approximately the annual average for the five-year period before the war--173,000.

During the war, an average of over 200,000 units was turned out annually, but these vehicles were for military use and involved different production techniques.

Canadian unions may seek retroactive pay--The United Automobile Workers' Union (C.I.O.-C.C.L.) has been studying the possibilities of claiming portal-to-portal back pay from Canadian employers on the basis of existing contracts with employers and labour legislation, in the same manner as the American branch of the union is filing its four billion dollar suit.

The portal-to-portal issue in the United States resulted from a Supreme Court decision that workers should be paid from the time they step within the company's gates rather than from the time they start work. Similarly, Canadian union officials believe that the automotive employee in this country is entitled to time-and-a-half pay for the time needed to get tools from his crib or obtain certain stock needed for his job before starting work.

Figures not available for these dates

EMPLOYMENT, AGGREGATE PAYROLLS AND PER CAPITA WEEKLY EARNINGS IN THE CANADIAN AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY FROM 1941 TO 1946

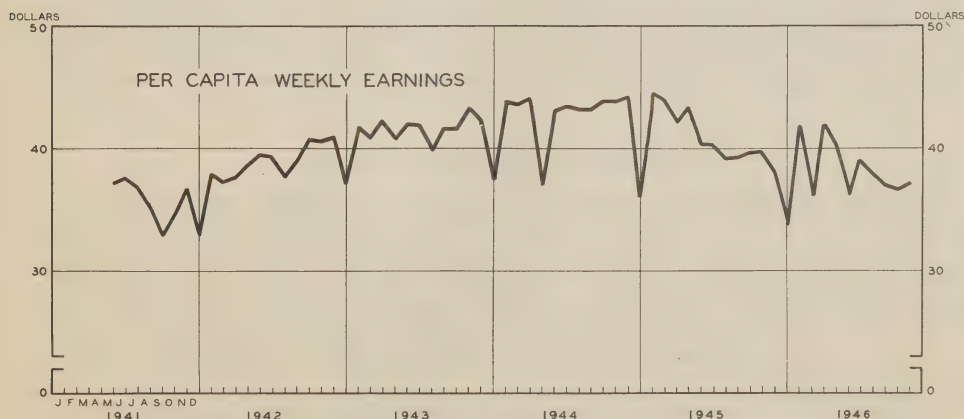
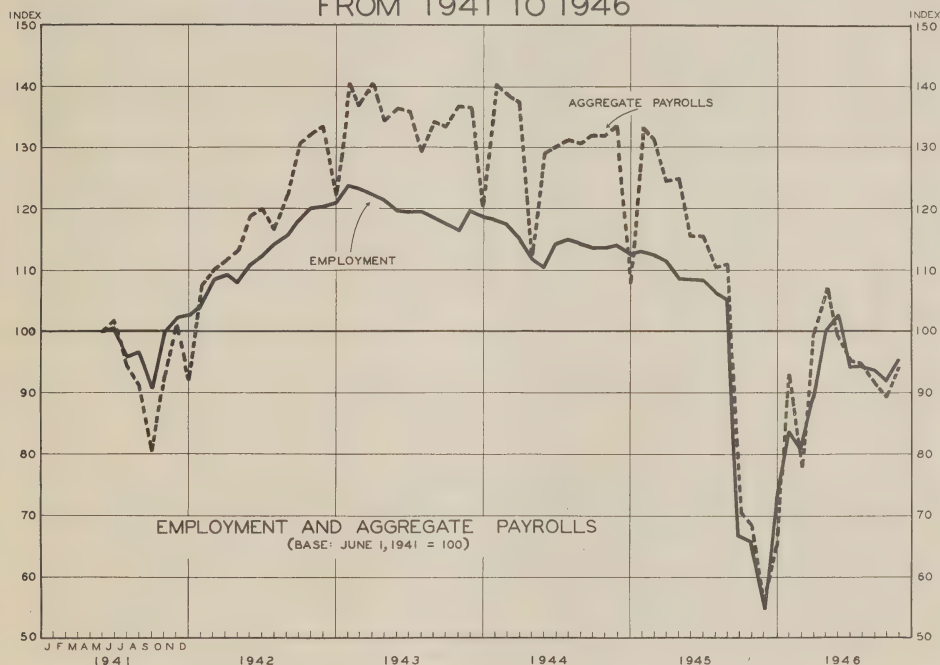


Table II—Automobile Production in Canada, 1946

(Source: Census of Industry Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

Month	For Sale In Canada	For Export	Total
January.....	8,495	-	8,495
February.....	4,792	2,692	7,484
March.....	6,872	4,501	11,373
April.....	10,665	6,165	16,830
May.....	12,532	7,490	20,022
June.....	10,189	5,396	15,585
July.....	10,724	6,497	17,221
August.....	6,902	5,391	12,293
September.....	7,159	4,384	11,543
October.....	10,369	4,582	14,951
November.....	12,403	6,702	19,105
December.#.....	-	-	-
Total - 11 months.....	101,102	53,800	154,902
Yearly Average 1935 - 9.....	111,965	60,837	172,802

December figures not available

Supply scarcity clouds immediate outlook—Stringencies in the supply of many materials, especially steel, are expected to continue during the first few months of 1947, possibly to mid-summer. Adequate production from supplier plants is contingent on peaceful labour conditions. The production process in the automotive industry is so closely timed, and so many items go into the end product, that a strike in any one of the hundreds of supplier plants, can close a whole factory. Another strike in the American coal industry, with its crippling effect on steel production, would be a major blow to the automobile industry here.

Employment forecasts received from key firms across Canada, employing over 75 per cent of the total labour force, predict that employment will stay at its present level during the first six months of 1947. In this connection it should be remembered that employment now is almost 100 per cent above 1939,

The Electrical Apparatus Industry.

Employment returning to normal after strike settlement—After being hampered by strikes and material shortages during 1946, the electrical apparatus industry now is beginning to return to its normal level of production. During the past year, this industry has provided employment for an average of slightly more than 40,000 workers in some 250-odd plants across Canada. Some 6,000 strikers were out in three large Ontario plants from July to October and these workers were being gradually taken back during November.

Backlog of demand maintains employment—During the war, the urgent need for all types of electrical equipment caused employment and production to leap upwards. Stimulated by the six-year accumulated demand for civilian household and industrial equipment, this abnormally high level of activity has been fairly well maintained since V-J day. As is apparent on the accompanying

chart, employment approached the 50,000 mark at its 1943 peak. Since the end of the war, the figure has hovered between the 40,000 to 45,000 mark.

As this industry is a growing one-the secular trend of employment has been steadily upwards, outrunning the rate of population growth-a return to the pre-war level of activity is unlikely, even after the existing accumulated consumer demand is satisfied. This feature, together with the absence of extreme seasonal fluctuations in the industry, should ensure a reasonable stability of employment to the labour force over the long term period.

Long strike during 1946 hindered production—The strike in the three major electrical appliance plants, of which the principal statistics are recorded below, was one of the most widely publicized and extended of the strike campaign conducted by the Canadian Congress of Labour during 1946. This particular strike was called by the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (C.I.O.-C.C.L.), a young and radical union whose membership has grown from a few hundred early in the war to over 10,000 at the present time, and which had just recently been certified as bargaining agent for the companies concerned. At the height of the strike, there were close to 6,000 workers, or more than 10 per cent of the industry's labour force, off the job.

The final agreement, reached almost four months after the beginning of the strike, followed shortly after that in the primary steel industry which set the pattern for strike settlement during 1946. The union was partially successful in obtaining its demands for increased wages, reduced hours, and two weeks vacation with pay. On the average, wage increases of approximately 13 cents an hour were obtained as well as a slight reduction in the length of the standard work week. However, material shortages had already caused a reduction in the work week, although with no corresponding increase in pay, to many of the workers involved.

This union also conducted two other strikes at the same period. One was a small strike at the Monarch Battery Plant in Kingston which was quickly settled and the second was in the Electrical and Metallurgical Company at Welland, which is not classified under this industry group.

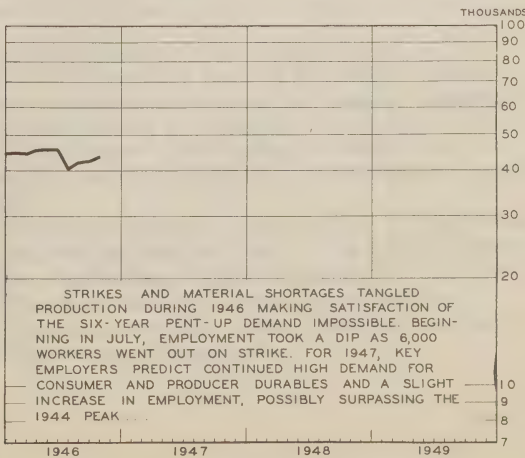
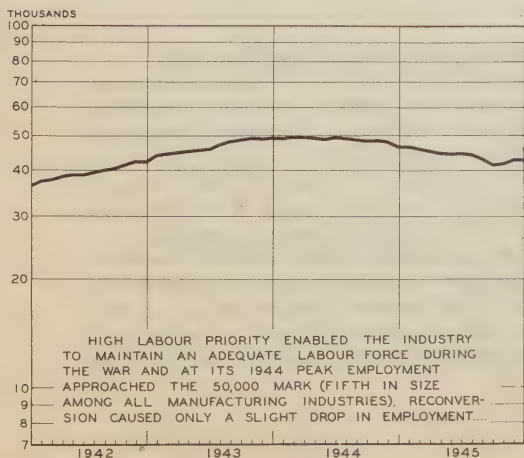
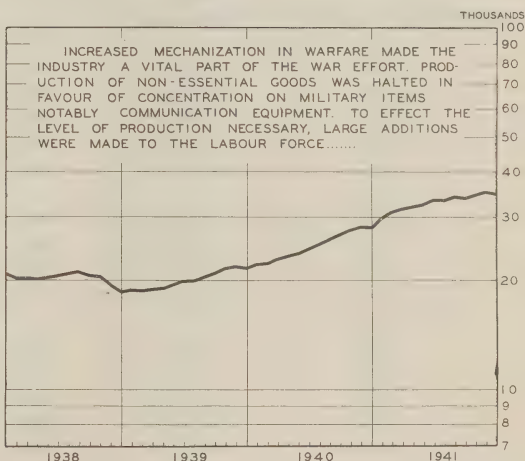
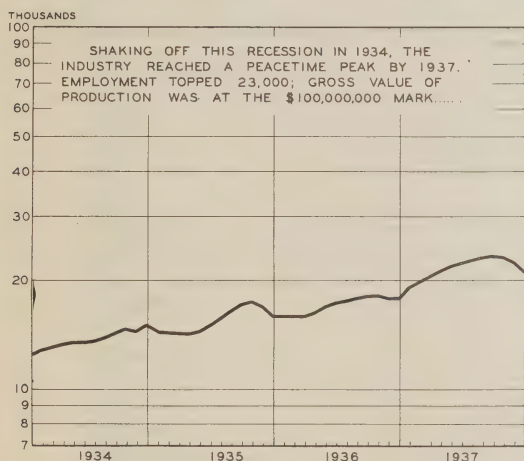
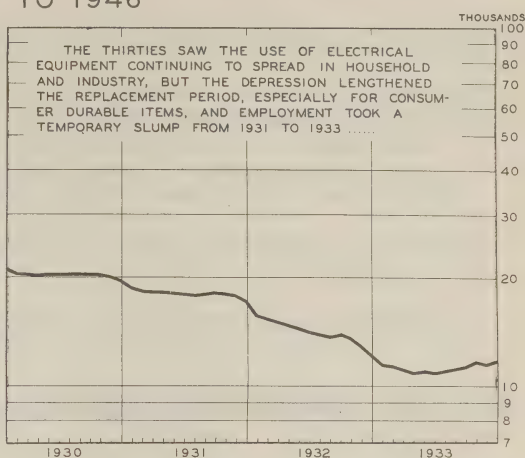
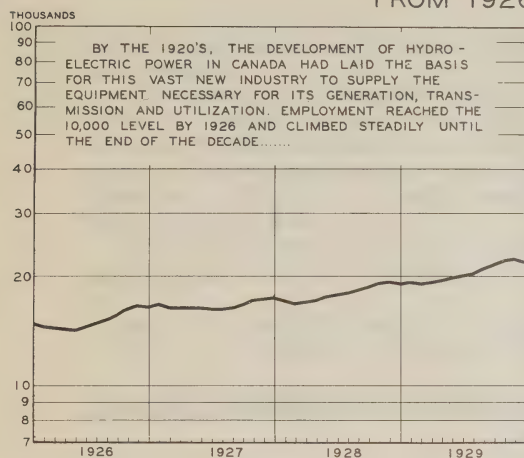
Table III—Major Strikes in the Electrical Apparatus Industry 1946.

(Source: Research and Statistics Branch, Dept. of Labour)

Name of Firm	Location	Duration	No. of Workers Involved	Time Loss in Man Hours
Amalgamated Elec. Corp. and Can. Wire And Cable Co.	Toronto	July 7-Oct. 31	1200-1300	112,500
Canadian Westinghouse Co. Ltd.	Hamilton	July 5-Oct. 28	3,000-4,000	320,000

Sex distribution of employment shifting—Since 1939, this industry has undergone two distinct shifts in the ratio of male to female employees. At the beginning of the war, the percentage of women was at its normal level, about twenty-five per cent of the work force. Due to the high level of production necessary for the armed forces and the scarcity of labour, thousands of women were taken on in electrical goods factories in the early 40's.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE CANADIAN ELECTRICAL APPARATUS INDUSTRY FROM 1926 TO 1946



At the peak, over 20,000 women were employed, roughly 40 per cent of total employment.

A reversal of the above trend, but more gradual, has taken place since V-J day. As yet, however, the sex distribution of employment has not yet returned to its pre-war pattern and it is expected that a considerable period will be required for complete readjustment to take place. At November 1, 1946, the industry employed 13,700 women, 32 per cent of the total labour force.

This rise and fall in the employment of women, consequent on the war, can be seen in Table IV below.

Table IV—Sex Distribution of Employment in the Electrical Apparatus Industry at Selected Dates, 1930 to 1946.

(Sources: Employment Statistics Br., and Census of Industry Br., D.B.S.)

Date	Total Employment	Number of Women Employed	Percent of Women in Total Employment
1931 Average.....	18,200	4,400	24.4
1935 "	15,500	4,000	26.1
1939 "	20,300	4,900	24.2
1943 "	46,900	19,300	41.1
1944 "	48,800	21,200	43.4
1945			
January 1.....	46,800	19,100	40.8
April 1.....	45,300	18,100	39.9
July 1.....	45,000	17,600	39.0
October 1.....	41,500	15,000	36.4
1946			
January 1.....	43,000	15,200	34.4
April 1.....	44,200	14,700	33.2
July 1.....	45,900	14,600	31.7
October 1.....	42,500	13,700	32.3
November 1.....	43,300	13,700	31.7

Household appliance production up—Employment in a large sector of the electrical apparatus industry is dependent upon the market for such consumer durable items as radios, refrigerators, washing machines, and vacuum cleaners. A marked increase in retail sales and production of consumer durables in the past few months has occurred, and it is thought that during October, and for 1946 on the average, production of radios, washing machines, and refrigerators has been well above the pre-war level.

Future prospects bright—One of the most dynamic sections of the Canadian economy, whose growth parallels the increasing adaptation of electrical power to household and industrial needs, the electrical apparatus industry can look forward to a bright future both for the short and the long term periods. The industry now is in the period of "growth into the social fabric" and new uses for electrical power are constantly being discovered.

Table V—Production of Selected Consumer Durable Items, 1939 and 1946.

(Source: Census of Industry Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

	Monthly Average 1939	Monthly Ave- rage 10 Months 1946	October 1946
Radio Receiving Sets.....	29,000	42,200 #	46,100 #
Domestic Washing Machines.....	8,700	9,900	11,400
Refrigerators.....	4,300	4,400	5,900

Producers sales.

In regard to the immediate future of the industry, reports from 21 of the leading electrical appliance manufacturers in Canada, whose employment is more than 50 per cent of the total in the industry, indicate that an 8 per cent rise in employment is expected from December 1, 1946, to April 1, 1947. From spring to mid-summer, relative employment stability is predicted.

In a recent statement, D.C. Durland, Chairman of the Board of the Canadian General Electric Company, commented on the outlook for 1947 as follows: "The increasing use of electrical energy at low cost is a major contribution to human welfare. The pent-up demand for electrical goods resulting from six years of concentration on war production, combined with the constantly expanding use of electricity, indicates that the industry will continue at a high level of activity throughout 1947. Production and expansion of manufacturing facilities are dependent upon an adequate supply of materials, balanced inventories and stabilized labour conditions.....".

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

The following regional analysis deals with the current labour market situation in each of the five regions, Maritime, Quebec, Ontario, Prairie and Pacific. The holiday season obscures the state of the labour market, the primary industries in particular experiencing a "semi-shutdown" over Christmas and New Years. However, it would seem that the mid-winter low has been reached in employment activity, and that an improvement should be noticeable by the end of January.

Table I—Unfilled Vacancies and Unplaced Applicants at January 2, by Region
(Source: Advance Report on Labour Demand and Supply, Research and Statistics Branch)

Region	Unfilled Vacancies				Unplaced Applicants			
	Male	Female	Total	%	Male	Female	Total	%
Maritime.....	2,000	2,000	4,000	4.5	21,000	2,000	23,000	13.9
Quebec.....	26,000	12,000	38,000	42.2	35,000	8,000	43,000	26.1
Ontario.....	17,000	17,000	34,000	37.8	37,000	9,000	46,000	27.9
Prairie.....	8,000	3,000	11,000	12.2	25,000	5,000	30,000	18.2
Pacific.....	2,000	1,000	3,000	3.3	19,000	4,000	23,000	13.9
Canada.....	55,000	35,000	90,000	100.0	137,000	28,000	165,000	100.0

Maritimes

Logging demands largely skilled—Lumbering in most areas has been progressing favourably with few demands for labour. It is expected full operation in the woods will not get underway until January. Local employment offices have been able to meet all orders. Most operators have been asking for experienced workmen and until they are no longer available, are reluctant to hire inexperienced men.

Fishermen's strike action may spread—Most vessels engaged in deep sea fishing are tied up because of the breakdown in negotiations between the Canadian Fisherman's Union and the operators. The strike is expected to spread to labour engaged in processing work since the Canadian Fisherman's Union has amalgamated with the Fish Handlers' Union. Thus over two thousand workers may be affected.

Slump in manufacturing employment—In heavy manufacturing, daily lay-offs occurred in the New Glasgow-Pictou area. Lay-offs have ceased at the steel plant in Sydney and labour demand is static. Manufacturing in the Yarmouth area was at a standstill because of the shortage of electric power.

Construction activity prolonged—Continued mild weather prolonged residential and commercial construction in urban and rural areas, but highway construction has been discontinued until spring.

Shipyards active—A high level of employment is being maintained at shipyards in Halifax. There is considerable work on hand and no expectations of any curtailment within the next few months. Negotiations for new contracts are being carried on. Unskilled labour is plentiful, but ships joiners are in short supply.

Trade employment high—Both wholesale and retail trade remain steady. Trade in the larger centres increased noticeably during the Christmas season and indications pointed to a record level of sales. In the Halifax area few post-Christmas lay-offs have taken place from the wholesale trade. There seems to be a tendency to build up staff in anticipation of an increase in stocks of consumers' goods.

Quebec

Manpower exceptionally bountiful for logging—Most available experience men have been sent to the woods and many logging companies now are trying to make provision to train unskilled men. Training the unskilled is probably the only means to augment present wood cutting staffs from within the region. This industry has, on an overall picture, done exceptionally well for manpower. The production objective is much higher than in previous years, and in all probability will be met if moderate weather prevails.

Increase in unemployed seamen—Harbour and canal operations came to a standstill in Montreal at the beginning of the month. The closing of navigation has caused some unemployment. Sailors reported to the employment offices willing to accept other work for the slack season.

Manufacturing outlook improving—The short United States coal strike and attendant rail embargo had some repercussions in manufacturing. Shipyards laid off 500 to 600 men and contemplated a temporary shutdown. It is notable that the number of firms manufacturing various types of wooden articles is increasing. This should somewhat stabilize the Quebec manufacturing employment picture.

Textile employment slackening—Employment in textiles is beginning to settle down. Primary textiles can absorb any skilled workers available but no longer need male trainees except to take care of normal turnover. In secondary textiles, hiring has been discontinued in the manufacturing of women's dresses where there is some evidence of over-production. The slowdown should cease towards the end of January when work for the spring buyer's market gets underway. Shortage of material has caused the manufacturing of men's shirts and clothes to remain on a more even keel.

Ontario

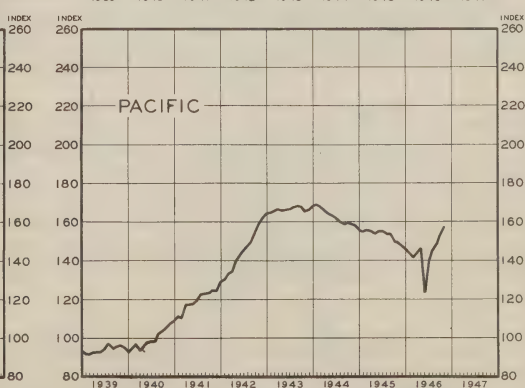
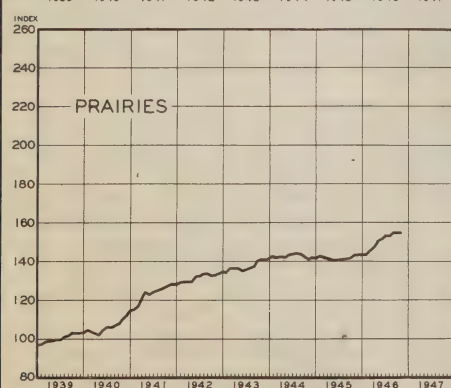
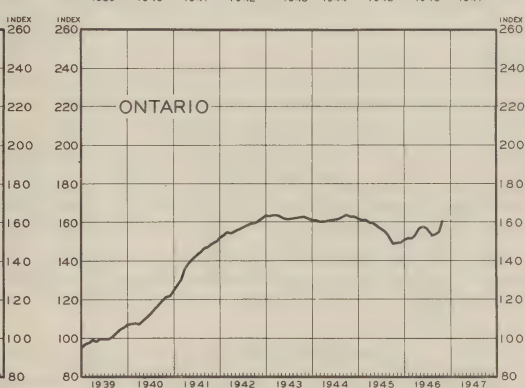
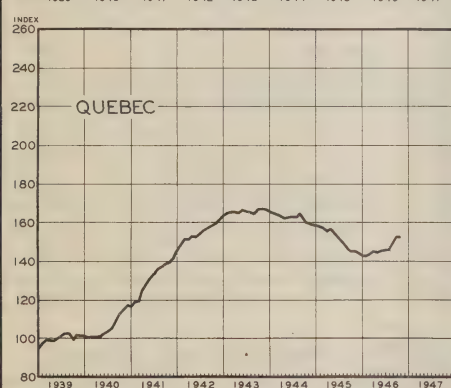
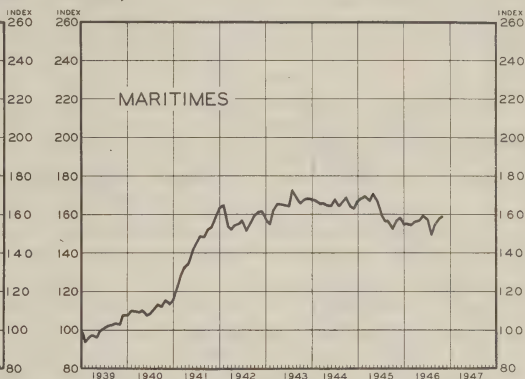
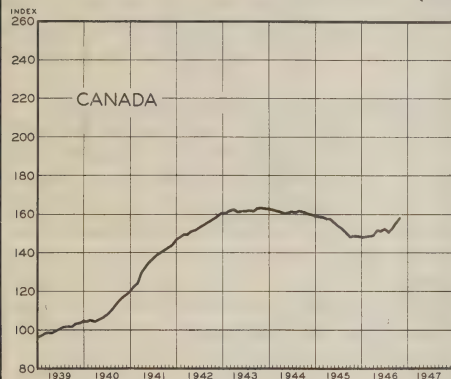
Logging needs emphasize skilled help—Generally speaking logging camps are well staffed and progress in production has been very satisfactory. Requirements for men in the pulpwood camps have been changing slowly to experienced pulpwood cutters. The supply of manpower for the pulp and logging industries is reported to be 15 per cent to 20 per cent higher than in previous years.

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

FROM 1939 TO 1947

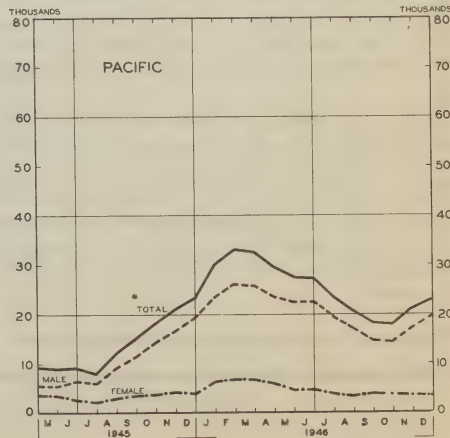
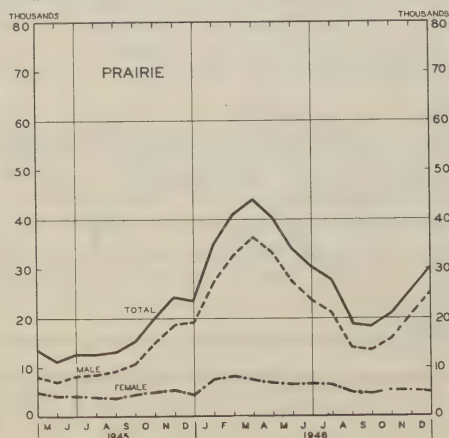
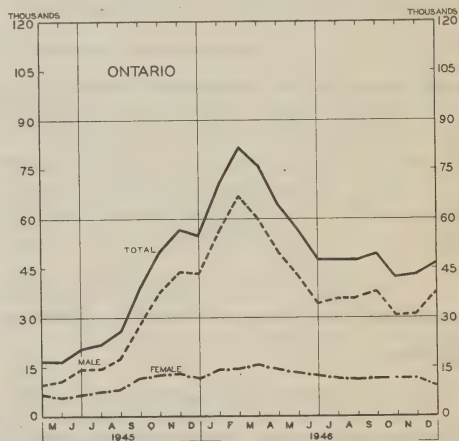
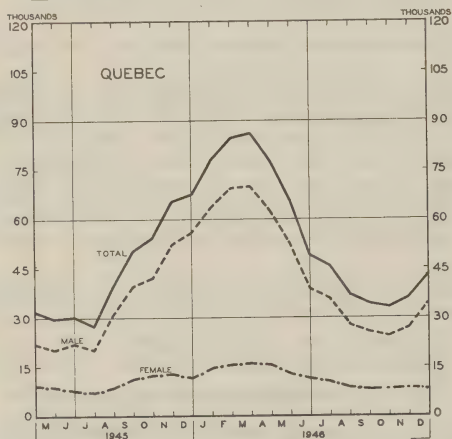
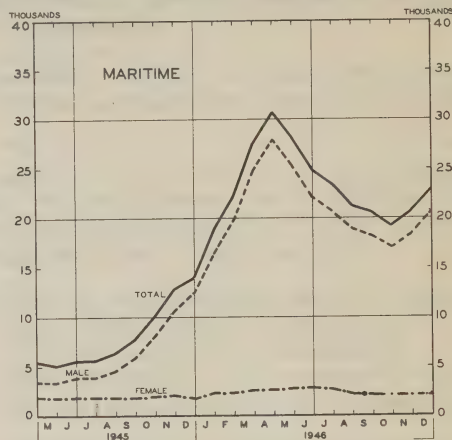
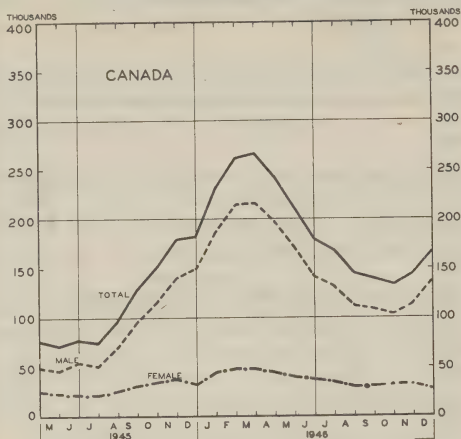
(AVERAGE - 1939 = 100)



REGIONAL UNPLACED APPLICANTS

AS REPORTED BY THE

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE



Active construction tradesmen demand—While the demand for rough carpenters required for concrete form construction work greatly decreased because of cold weather, the demand for experienced finish carpenters should continue throughout the winter months. The demand for experienced bricklayers, plasterers, and licensed plumbers has been maintained at a level much higher than usual. Although quite a number of residential and industrial construction projects have been closed in, some delays are being experienced because of the shortage of plumbing supplies, particularly that of soil pipe and copper pipe.

Lull in manufacturing requirements—Various factors caused a slowdown in manufacturing during the month. The United States coal strike and consequent railway embargo threatened to cause serious curtailment in the Windsor area. Electric power shortage affected employment conditions in some parts of Ontario. In the Welland area, although no lay-offs were necessary, shifts were re-arranged so that production could be maintained outside of peak load hours. Vacancies reported for both light and heavy factory labour decreased with the most marked decline in the demand for light unskilled labour. This reduction in vacancies is due both to year-end industrial inventories and to seasonal causes. There was also a general lull in heavy industry due partly to the holiday season and partly to the continued shortage of materials.

Prairie

Manpower for logging satisfactory—The labour situation in woods operations has been generally satisfactory. Camps of large operators in northwestern Ontario and eastern Manitoba are almost filled. Generally there is only a light demand for experienced cutters to fill the few vacancies that still exist and to take care of turnover. The majority of orders in clearance have either been cancelled outright, temporarily suspended, or amended to eliminate referral of inexperienced men. A few of the smaller operators are still in need of men but such vacancies are usually hard to fill as camp conditions are not so attractive as those maintained by larger operators. In Saskatchewan small surpluses of partly and fully experienced men are likely to accumulate.

Lay-offs pending—There are lay-offs, either actual or prospective, at packing plants throughout the region. These are attributed to a falling off in live-stock receipts. A number of grain handlers were laid-off at the Lakehead due to close of navigation. Further lay-offs depend upon receipts of grain, and shipping demand. If cars are available to meet the need, lay-offs are unlikely.

Unusually active constructive season—There has not been the usual unemployment reported in respect to building construction workers, although the number who will be out of work will show a steady increase until activities in construction get underway in the spring. Work continuing on industrial structures despite climatic conditions should provide steady employment for a number of construction labourers and skilled artisans. However, many factors have combined to slow down progress in house building, such as inclement weather, lack of adequate skilled help, and shortage of all construction materials.

Pacific Region

Unemployment mounting—The seasonal decline in vacancies continues throughout the Pacific region. Unemployment insurance claims have increased steadily. Seasonal lay-offs and an increasing number of transfers from other parts of Canada have been the two main factors in the increase.

Slowdown in logging—A temporary reduction of the work force in logging took place over the Christmas holiday period. Weather also played a part in reducing employment as camps in many areas closed because of heavy snow and freezing temperatures. The industry will begin full-scale operation after the new year if weather conditions permit. Sawmills usually shut down during the holiday season to make repairs and accumulate log supplies. This year repairs will require little time because of the summer shutdown caused by the logging strike, and log supplies are the best in several years. The possibility of a curtailment in saw-mill work will arise only if adverse weather delays the re-opening of the logging camps.

Probable employment expansion in shipyards shortly—Employment in the steel shipyards is decreasing slightly. It would appear, nevertheless, that as material becomes available in 1947 the yards in both Vancouver and Victoria will increase their work force noticeably. Yarrows Limited have seven draughtsmen en route from Great Britain who will expedite the drawings required for the contracts on hand.

Shortage of skilled miners hampers expansion—With the cessation of the mining strike, the majority of mines are back in operation again. Orders for fully experienced hard rock miners are difficult to fill due to the fact that many experienced miners found work in other industries, and do not appear willing to return to the mines. The need for key men in the industry is hampering operations. If the shortage could be met there would be an opening of employment opportunities for unskilled workers.

EMPLOYMENT AND THE POST-WAR PATTERN OF MANUFACTURING DIVERSIFICATION IN ONTARIO

War industry was heavily concentrated in Ontario both because of geographical factors and previous industrial development. At the beginning of the war there were 479,000 workers in recorded employment in Ontario. Peak employment of 778,000 was attained by December 1943, an increase of 63 per cent over the pre-war level. In the changeover to peace Ontario has, on the whole, suffered the least industrial dislocation of any region. Readjustment problems have been at a minimum in an economy of well-established and widely diversified industry where many war plants could be converted and where the absorptive capacity of the civilian branches of manufacturing and of such industries as construction, transportation and trade was high.

It is noticeable that a very large proportion of expanded manufacturing employment has been maintained by conversion and adaptation of plants to civilian output, except in shipbuilding, aircraft production, and ordnance, where decline has been severe. The surplus of workers varies from area to area. In some it is high, while in others it is generally low and the demand for certain skills exceeds supply. Several factors contribute to the slowness with which the supply has adjusted itself to demand.

Full pocket-books and the expansion of social security programs "cushion" the effect of temporary unemployment on the worker's income. Many are reluctant to accept employment which pays less than their wartime job or which does not pay them for a skill acquired during the war. People are also reluctant to leave an agreeable locality if there seems to be any chance of employment. Lack of housing in areas of job opportunity decreases mobility between areas. However, in a few areas where manufacturing employment has been cut-back an outward movement of labour has taken place.

This article is the second in the series dealing with the changing pattern of manufacturing employment in the five regions. The October 1, 1946 figure of employment has been used to show present activity in manufacturing. The October 1 figure of job applicants, for all types of employment, not just manufacturing, is given. This figure measures the volume of unemployment only insofar as jobless workers are registering at offices of the National Employment Service.

Steel centres

Sault Ste. Marie—In Sault Ste. Marie, where there was no ordnance program, expanded steel production has been maintained and there is increasing activity in pulp and paper and mining. Steel production is concentrated on structural shapes and rails, and hot roll bars. Pre-war manufacturing employment of 3,500 expanded to 5,000 in 1943 and in 1946 is averaging about 6,000. An October employment figure of 3,000 reflects strike conditions. Unplaced applicants are about 1,000.

Hamilton—In this widely diversified steel manufacturing centre, a slight decrease in employment has taken place because of the discontinuance of ordnance manufacturing. Otherwise, the production of primary iron and steel and a widened range of steel products, the result of wartime installations centering around a plate and hot strip mill, have been maintained at wartime levels, about twice the 1939 levels. The employment figures for the summer and fall of 1946 reflect strike conditions rather than any permanent decline in manufacturing jobs.

Iron and steel products--15,500 workers employed at October 1, 1946. An average 1946 employment of 20,000 is almost double the level in 1939, but 8,500 less than the 1943 employment level.

Electrical apparatus (motor brakes and generators)--2,000. Average employment in 1946 has maintained the 1943 level, and is about twice the 1939 level.

Textiles (cotton goods, hosiery and knitted wear)--7,200, 1,000 more than 1939, sustaining the 1943 level of employment.

Food products--3,500, about the same as in 1939 and 1943.

Total manufacturing--37,000 (32,000 in 1939, 55,000 in 1943).

The cut-back in the large ordnance program, although eased somewhat by the net withdrawal of at least 4,000 female workers from the manufacturing labour force during 1945 and 1946, has left a large unabsorbed group of workers in the labour market. To these must be added those workers displaced during the steel strike. Applicants, therefore, are about 5,200.

Centres with a manufacturing core of iron and steel plants

Brantford--Employment in the iron group stands at three times the 1939 level, despite a fall from the 1943 level of approximately 1,500 due to the discontinued production of ordnance and military vehicles. In the wood products group, employment has been reduced by about 1,000 because of curtailment in manufacture of wooden aircraft frames. Total manufacturing employment is about 11,500 (6,500 in 1939), or 2,500 less than the 1943 level.

Iron products--6,200 at October 1, 1946, consisting in part of
agricultural implements - 4,500 (600 in 1939),
truck and bus bodies - 400 (200 in 1939),
boilers and engines - 500,
machinery - 400.

Textiles (miscellaneous textiles and cotton goods)--2,000 (300 above the peak war level).

Wood and paper--600.

Electrical apparatus--500 (slightly more than half the 1943 level).

Food products--900.

Unplaced applicants are about 300.

St. Catharines--The total manufacturing force is slightly over 13,000--somewhat higher than the 1943 level and more than double the pre-war level. Employment opportunities are well diversified, both generally and within the principal manufacture of iron products. Employment has fallen in the manufacture of iron products with decreased production of shot, gun parts, and truck parts.

Iron products (steel shapes, boilers, engines, hardware, tools, and truck parts)--6,700 more than twice the 1939 level but a decline of 1,800 from 1943.

Pulp, paper, printing--2,600.

Electrical apparatus--1,100.

Non-ferrous metals--600.

Food products--800.

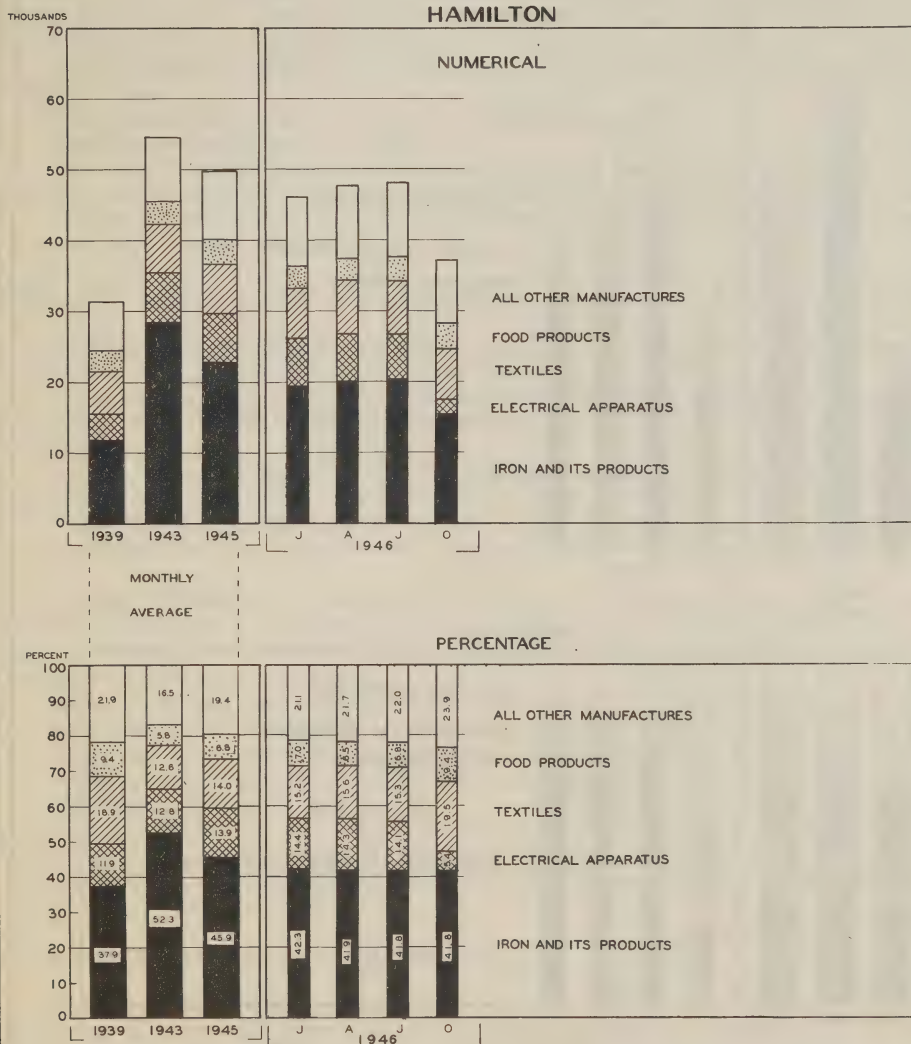
Clay, glass, and stone products--300.

Unplaced applicants are about 1,100.

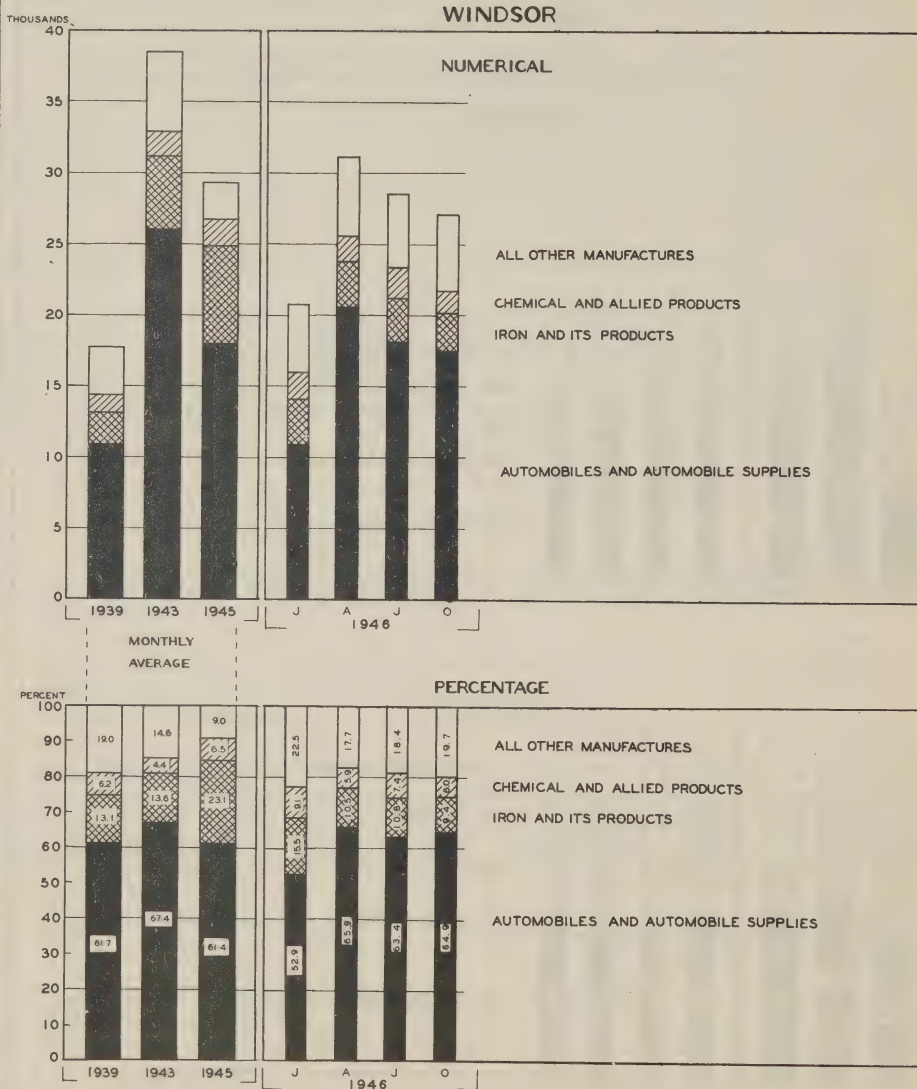
In St. Catharines and in Brantford the number of applicants is relatively low. Net female withdrawals during 1945 and 1946, estimated to be 900 in the former and 1,800 in the latter area, have almost completely accounted for the decline.

THE CHANGING PATTERN OF MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT

(1939 - 1946)



THE CHANGING PATTERN OF MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT (1939 - 1946)



Welland—Welland, centre of manufacturing processes using large quantities of electric power, has had a decline of activity in alloy steel manufacturing and an almost complete discontinuance of the production of chemicals. Female withdrawals from the labour force and considerable migration of labour have diminished the number of unemployed on the labour market.

The current manufacturing force stands at 6,600 (3,900 in 1939), about 3,500 below the wartime level. The drop in employment from 1943 is made up of about 500 from the iron products group (alloy-steel production and piping division) and 1,500 from chemical products, which represents practically the whole employment of the latter.

Iron products—4,700, down 500 from 1943, mostly in plants manufacturing steel alloys.

Chemicals—less than 100, down 1,500 from 1943.

Textiles—sustained at 1,200.

Non-metallic minerals (carbon and graphite)—normally 1,500, current employment was affected by the strike of metal workers, lasting from July to October.

Rubber products (related chiefly to battery making)—sustained at 400.

Unplaced applicants are about 600.

Automotive centres: employment held back by strikes and material shortages

Windsor—In automobile and parts plants, 1946 employment has fluctuated around the 20,000 level; it was 26,000 in 1943 and 10,900 in 1939.

In plants producing other iron and steel products (structural shapes over half the output), employment was 3,000 in 1946, 5,000 in 1943, and 2,000 in 1939.

In the chemical industry (medicinal and pharmaceutical, alkalis and salts), employment averaged about 2,000 in 1946, 2,000 in 1943 and 1,200 in 1939.

Unplaced applicants number 12,600 (about 5,600 of these may be accounted for by strikes).

Oshawa—Expansion in manufacturing was not so extensive as that in Windsor, but there has been a considerable drop in employment in firms making iron and steel products, occasioned by the closing out of the production of aircraft fuselages and engine mountings.

Automobile and parts manufacture—employment in 1946 fluctuated around the 5,000 level; it was 6,000 in 1943 and 3,000 in 1939.

Iron and steel products, other than vehicles, (steel shapes half of output)—employment was 1,500 in 1946 and 1,500 in 1943.

Unplaced applicants are 3,100.

The proportion of applicants in the automobile centres of Windsor and Oshawa is high. Here, where strikes and material shortages have been holding back production, workers appear to be waiting for employment to increase as production returns to normal.

Centres of diversified manufacturing

Kingston—Manufacturing employment is currently maintained at 5,000, which represents a drop of 2,000 from the wartime level, but a tripling of the pre-war work force. Manufacturing here is basically dependent on aluminum processing developed during the war, with iron products the secondary element.

Aluminum (sheeting and tubing)--employment now 1,800 (1,000 less than in 1943).

Iron products--employment is 1,300 or some 500 less than the 1943 level; the drop is due to reduction in shipbuilding activity.

Textiles (nylon two-thirds)--employment is 800, sustained at the 1943 level.

Food products--300.

Glass, wood and leather--less than 300 each.

Unplaced applicants number 600.

Niagara Falls--Employment in manufacturing is 7,000 (3,600 in 1939), a drop of less than 1,000 from the 1943 level. Manufacturing, based upon the use of electric power, is well diversified.

Iron products (steel shapes, machinery, wire)--1,200 (slightly lower than the 1943 employment level).

Chemicals (cyanimid, cyanide, and fertilizer)--2,200.

Non-ferrous abrasives--600 (decline of 500 from the 1943 level).

Clay, glass and stone products--600.

Electrical apparatus--400.

Unplaced applicants are 200.

Peterborough, London, and Kitchener-Waterloo function as consumers' goods manufacturing and food processing centres in densely settled and prosperous rural and urban areas in the middle of the great Ontario marketing region. Although Kitchener-Waterloo has a large manufacturing development in rubber and Peterborough in electrical appliances and grain processing, all three are widely diversified in manufacturing activity. Net female withdrawals from the labour force have been light (minimum: Peterborough 200, London 600, and Kitchener 100), but the expanded manufacture of consumers' goods, released from wartime restrictions, has made these centres areas of increasing activity and labour scarcity.

Peterborough--The level of total manufacturing employment has reached 9,300 (5,100 in 1939), about 700 below war level.

Electrical apparatus (appliances)--employment was 1,600 in 1939, 4,800 in 1943, and 4,000 in 1946.

Iron products--employment of 700 in 1939, 1,400 in 1943, and 1,400 in 1946.

Non-ferrous metals (largely the manufacture of clocks)--employment of 500 in 1939, 650 in 1943, and 650 in 1946.

Food products (grain products account for two-thirds of employment)--800 in 1939, 1,200 in 1943, 1,500 in 1946.

Wood and paper products--700 in 1946.

Textiles (chiefly carpets and woollen yarns)--600 in 1946.

Unplaced applicants are 500.

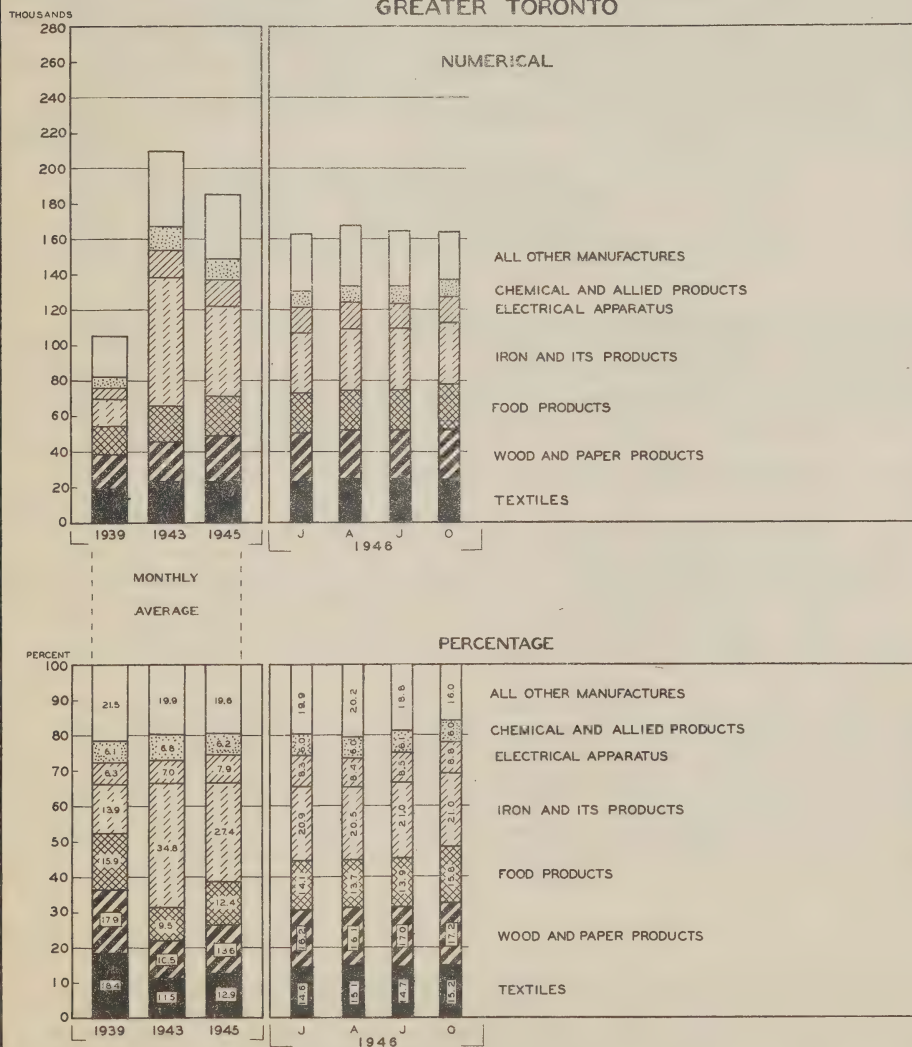
London--Employment, at 15,000 which exceeds the 1943 level, is divided fairly evenly among the manufacture of iron products, wood and paper products, and food products. Textile and electrical apparatus manufacturing employ fewer workers.

Iron and steel products--employment of 2,200 in 1939, expanded to 3,800 in 1943, and to 4,100 in 1946.

Food products--employment grew from 2,300 in 1939 to 2,900 in 1943 and 2,800 in 1946.

THE CHANGING PATTERN OF MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT (1939 - 1946)

GREATER TORONTO



Wood and paper products—1,700 in 1939, 2,200 in 1943, and 2,800 in 1946.

Textiles (hosiery and knitted goods)—1,500 in 1939, 1,300 in 1943, and 2,000 in 1946.

Electrical apparatus—employment expanded from 400 in 1939 to 1,000 in 1943 and then declined to 700 in 1946.

Unplaced applicants number 800.

Kitchener-Waterloo—Manufacturing employment at a total of 12,000 (9,700 in 1939) shows the effect of strikes among rubber workers. In no industry has employment declined greatly from the 1943 level.

Rubber goods (tires and footwear)—employment has increased greatly, from 2,400 in 1939 to 3,600 in 1943 to an average level of 5,000 in 1946.

Wood and paper products (slightly more than half the number employed are engaged in the production of furniture)—2,000 employed in 1943, 2,300 in 1946.

Textiles—1,600 in 1943, 1,600 in 1946.

Leather goods—1,800 in 1943, 1,600 in 1946.

Iron products—900 in 1943, 1,300 in 1946.

Electrical apparatus—800 in 1943, 700 in 1946.

Unplaced applicants number 200.

Toronto—In Toronto, as in Montreal, total manufacturing employment is being maintained at a high level. However, there is a more even balance between the manufacturing groups in Toronto than in Montreal. During the war, expansion took place in all sections of manufacturing and employment has been gradually increasing in the post-war period in all groups except iron products and chemicals.

Total employment in manufacturing—100,000 in 1939, 210,000 in 1943, and 164,000 in 1946.

Textiles—20,000 in 1939, 24,000 in 1943 and 25,000 in 1946.

Iron products (including aircraft)—14,000 in 1939, 73,000 in 1943 and 35,000 in 1946. The drop in employment from 1943 to 1946 is accounted for by: aircraft - 20,000; ordnance - 14,000; and shipbuilding - 4,000.

Electrical apparatus—6,000 in 1939, 15,000 in 1943 and 14,000 in 1946.

Wood and paper products—18,000 in 1939, 22,000 in 1943, and 28,000 in 1946.

Food products—16,000 in 1939, 20,000 in 1943, and 26,000 in 1946.

War manufacturing recruited large numbers of females from outside the labour force and both male and female workers from consumer manufacturing, the service trades and trade and finance. Minimum net withdrawals of women from the labour force are estimated at 24,000. Job opportunities have been created in expanding consumer manufactures and a good part of the decline in employment in war manufacturing has been thus recovered. Unplaced applicants now number 9,800.

Other employment centres

Fort William and Port Arthur—Although manufacturing employment had risen in 1943 to more than 9,500 (2,700 in 1939), and had fallen by 1946 to a level of about 5,300, no marked outward movement of labour has taken place, presumably because of the comparative isolation of these centres and the lack of attractive alternative opportunities in manufacturing within the general area. Then, too, there has been a degree of conversion of aircraft facilities to the civilian output of buses and trolley-buses. This, besides currently maintaining a portion of the wartime employment, offers some prospects of re-absorption of labour.

Aircraft employment dropped from a 1943 level of 4,500, but 800 are employed in converted facilities on current manufacture of buses and trolley-buses.

Shipbuilding has dropped from 2,000 (1943) to 400.

In relation to present employment, there is a fairly large number of job applicants. The explanation would seem to rest in the extent of the decline of employment in that area, in the lack of alternative factory opportunity and in the comparative isolation of the area. Employment opportunity is in rugged work in logging and mining which is foreign to factory and metal workers, besides being physically and economically unattractive. In addition, it seems probable that labour is being held to the area by the hope of expansion in bus production, although according to reports such expansion is not expected.

Unplaced applicants number 1,700.

Ottawa—The situation in Ottawa is unique in that manufacturing counts so little in total employment. The number of job applicants is comparatively high, particularly in the clerical group. There are, besides, a number of metal worker and factory worker applicants because of the contraction of aircraft production and metal and instrument production. Contraction in the civil service and associated agencies is responsible for the clerical unemployment.

Manufacturing employment, which is but a small proportion of the total employment, stands at 10,000, which is about 1,500 below 1943. Employment in 1939 was 7,100.

Wood and paper products—4,000, maintaining the 1943 employment level.

Iron products (aircraft and small arms manufacture account for a 1,900 drop)—an overall decline of less than 1,000 from the 1943 level has taken place to the 1946 figure of 1,900.

Food products—1,500 in 1943, 1,500 in 1946.

Non-ferrous metals—employment has increased a little from 1943 to 600 in 1946.

Textiles—300 in 1946, slightly reduced from 1943.

Leather goods—200 in 1946, maintaining the 1943 level.

Unplaced applicants now number 3,200.

Sudbury—Employment is practically stabilized at the 1939 level, standing at 9,000, including employment in metal mining. This represents a drop of 3,000 from the 1943 level.

Metal mining—6,400 in 1943, 3,500 in 1946.

Smelting and refining—5,600 in 1943, 4,600 in 1946.

Applicants are few in view of the contracted activity in both mining and refining. The general high level of activity elsewhere in northern Ontario has undoubtedly attracted labour from Sudbury.

Applicants number 1,000.

Expansion in Ontario is generally more widespread than in Quebec, and more diversified. In Fort William-Port Arthur, the successful conversion from aircraft production to the production of buses and trolley-buses seems to have been well established. In Hamilton, the pattern of change is centred in steel and electrical apparatus. In both these industries, expansion is great. Increased activity in steel would seem to be solidly founded on a wide range of products, although a large volume of it is tied to the automobile industry and subject to its fluctuations. This is likewise the case in electrical apparatus with production of motor brakes and generators. The concentration of production in Sault Ste. Marie on heavy steel shapes indicates the close connection with work on heavy installations and railway

maintenance and development with the consequent prospect of a sharp decline in activity after a few years.

One would expect only limited employment contraction in Welland with the expanded activity in alloy steel, pipe making, and abrasives. So many specialized requirements now call for alloy steels that the present level of employment might well be maintained in spite of the fact that current production is closely tied to retooling and to the automobile industry. Pipe making, linked up with construction, and abrasives production with machinery making, seem assured of a high level of employment for the present, with a possible decline after several years as demand falls off.

In Brantford, employment in farm implement manufacture is seven times and bus body work twice the 1939 level. Anticipated demand for farm implements, both domestic and foreign, should be very great for a few years but after that, although increased farm mechanization should provide a larger market than in the pre-war period, a certain decline in activity is probable. The demand for truck and bus bodies should remain above the 1939 level.

Employment in St. Catharines in the manufacture of truck parts has more than doubled and in electrical apparatus it has tripled. The electrical industry, apart from the production of meters and transformers, is tied to automobile and truck requirements. Here, also, manufacturing activity may be expected to decline as the demand for durable goods is met.

In the automotive centres, Oshawa and Windsor, one would visualize a falling off in production when demand has returned to a more normal level. Sustained high volume of production would then depend largely on export opportunities.

Two permanent changes are apparent in Kingston. The first is the development of aluminum manufacture, where employment is presently at a moderate height - about half the wartime level. As the decline is largely because of conversion difficulties in sheet production, employment might be expected to expand. Output of sheet and tubing is linked with the aircraft and automobile business and expanding prefabricated housing, furniture, and electrical equipment manufacturing. The other permanent element is the nylon development. Though locomotive production is currently high, with foreign orders on hand, a decrease in activity may be anticipated.

Expansion of manufacturing in Niagara Falls is centred in abrasives and in the non-ferrous group, in dry cell plating. The maintenance of present employment is, therefore, dependent on the demand for industrial goods, which is not likely to maintain the present high level over any period of years. The expansion in Peterborough in electrical household appliances and in Kitchener-Waterloo in rubber tires, tubes and footwear has about doubled the 1939 level of employment. A large element of the expansion seems permanent since demand should be maintained through increased use for such products.

In Toronto, significant expansion in employment is apparent in wood and paper products, iron products, and electrical apparatus. In the first, expansion is along the same lines as in Montreal and seems as permanent. Iron products employment, at more than double the 1939 level, has expanded generally. Of significance in the present pattern is employment in the production of rolling stock at 1,800, aircraft at 1,600, machinery and tools at 7,200, and agricultural implements and sheet metal products at 3,400 and 4,000 respectively. One would expect extended activity in this wide range of products to continue somewhat below the current level. Employment in electrical apparatus manufacturing, at 8,000 above the pre-war level, is based on the need for transformers, incandescent lamps, and electronic equipment. This demand would seem to provide for a well-maintained expansion.

Post-war expansion of manufacturing employment in Ontario is dependent on the sustaining of the demand both for durable goods and non-durable goods. There is much to be done to provide producers' goods to build up the nation's capital equipment depreciated during the war and consumers' goods to satisfy the unfilled demand of the people for many commodities dispensed with during the war. However, the long-run utilization of Ontario's war-augmented plant and equipment rests on the maintenance of a high national income, the ability of the nation to buy the products of Ontario's plants.

A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS

A Key to the Area Tables

The area tables present statistical data on the labour market in thirty-eight selected areas. Some light is thrown on the trend of labour demand and supply in the area through the use of comparable figures for previous periods.

The areas are classified according to the seriousness of unemployment in each by means of the ratio of unplaced applicants per 1,000 employed. This ratio, as we have stated previously, is a crude measure evaluating short-term relative levels of unemployment.

The total labour force figure, including as it does, wage and salary workers, employers, self-employed, and unpaid family workers would be preferable to wage and salary workers employed as a ratio base. It would give a truer statement of the movement from employed status to unemployed status without reflecting movements not resulting in unemployment (e.g. a salary or a wage worker becoming self-employed). However, until labour force figures are available, the ratio base will be an estimate of the number of wage and salary workers employed in the area.

Unplaced applicants are workers who are seeking jobs through registration with the employment service. The figure of unplaced applicants will underestimate the number unemployed by the number of workers who seek work independently of the employment service. However, since it is probable that the unemployed will register with the local employment office when jobs are difficult to find and will find work on their own initiative, to a certain extent, without registering when jobs are plentiful, the unemployment ratio may understate unemployment slightly in good times while giving a fairly accurate picture in bad times, especially in work covered by unemployment insurance.

After we have reached a measure of the unemployment in an area we must have some idea as to the meaning of the measure. In a dynamic economy, at any one moment there will always be some workers who are not employed. Some will be changing jobs, some will have just left school and not yet found a place in the labour force, some in seasonal occupations will work only part of the year. We can classify levels of unemployment by a comparison with past levels, and designate the labour situation in the different areas by the group rating under which they come, as follows:

Group I--Areas in which over 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been labelled Acute, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in the "Mid-Thirties".

Group II--Areas in which between 150 and 300 workers are unemployed for every 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Serious, in the sense that it corresponds to that which occurred in 1939.

Group III--Areas in which 50 to 150 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Moderate, in the sense that it corresponds to that which existed in 1941.

Group IV--Areas in which under 50 workers are unemployed per 1,000 employed. The unemployment situation in areas within this group has been characterized as Slight, that is, in general it is that which would exist under conditions of full employment according to the experience of the years 1943 and 1944.

On the other hand we may desire more information than whether unemployment in an area is acute, serious, moderate or slight. The area tables present additional material relevant to the current labour demand and supply picture.

"Unfilled vacancies" are the number of jobs on file with the local employment office at the reporting date. The figure understates the job opportunities

insofar as employers do not report vacancies to the employment service. "Jobs available during month" is not necessarily a measure of total vacancies in the area during the period, but should indicate the trend of labour demand in comparison with figures for previous periods.

"Jobs filled by referral" are those which have been filled through the agency of the employment service. "Jobs filled without referral" are those which have been filled by the employer without recourse to the employment office. Such jobs may never have been reported as vacant. Nor does the number measure all engagements without referral. There will be some which are not reported by the employer to the employment service.

"Unplaced applicants", at any one date, includes "unconfirmed referrals" and "unreferred applicants". The term "unconfirmed referrals" covers those workers who are referred to jobs, but whose acceptance or rejection has not been confirmed. "Unreferred applicants" are those workers who are not, at the moment, referred to any job. As we said above, the number of unplaced applicants will understate the number of unemployed by the number of workers who seek work independently of the employment service. It should, in comparison with figures for previous periods, indicate the trend of labour supply. Those workers seeking part time work, or who are working and also seeking subsidiary employment or a change of employment through the employment service, are not included under the term "applicants".

A CLASSIFICATION OF CANADIAN LABOUR MARKET AREAS AS AT JANUARY 1, 1947

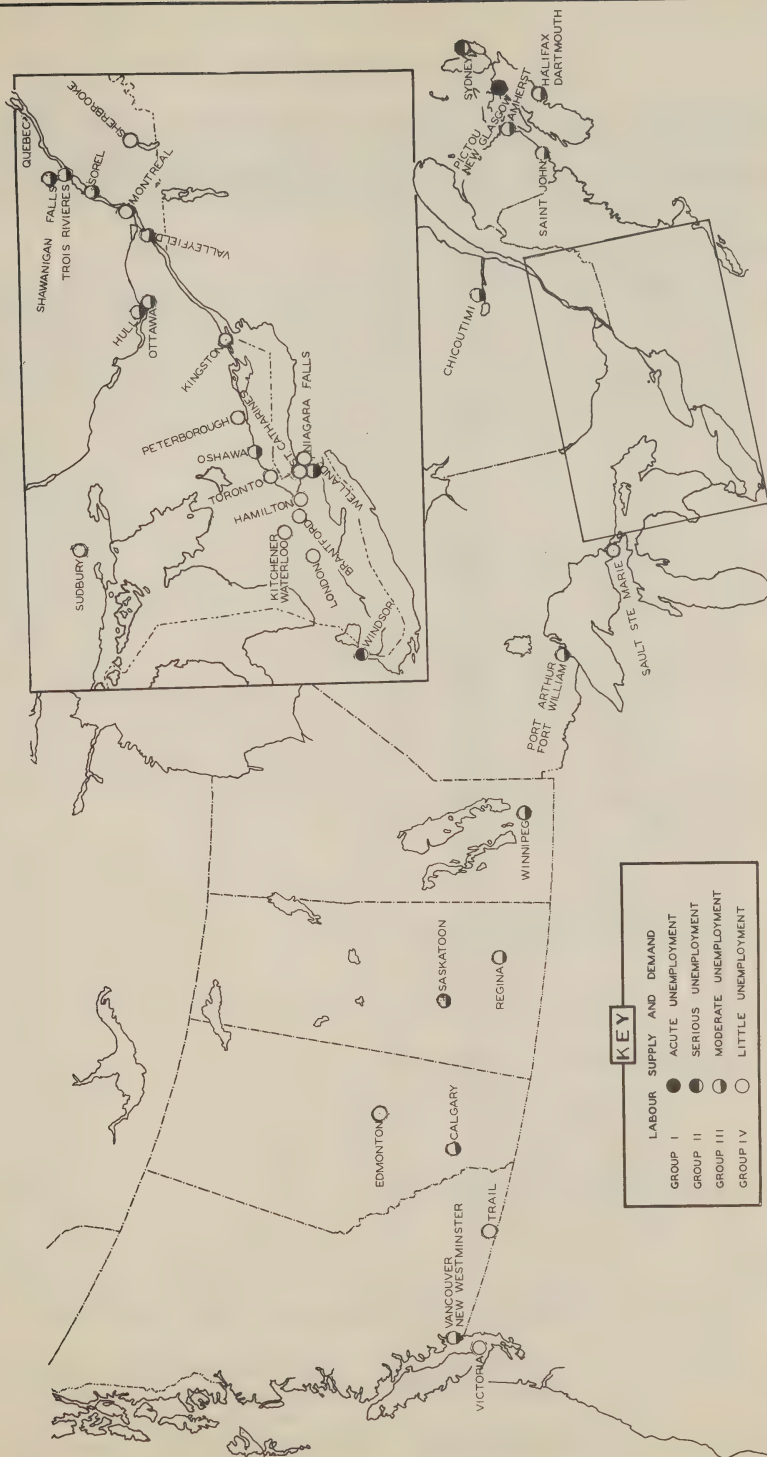


Table I—Index to Areas Analyzed in this Section

Note: The thirty-eight areas below are arranged according to seriousness of unemployment as at December 26, in descending order. Comparable ratings are also given for two previous selected dates.

Reference Page	Area	Group Rating		
		Oct. 31, 1946	Nov. 28, 1946	Dec. 26, 1946
59	New Glasgow & Pictou.....	I	I	I
59	Sydney (a).....	II	II	II
67	Windsor.....	II	III	II
61	Quebec (b).....	III	III	III
60	Hull.....	III	III	III
65	Oshawa.....	III	III	III
56	Amherst.....	III	III	III
62	Valleyfield.....	III	III	III
62	Three Rivers.....	III	III	III
61	Shawinigan Falls.....	III	III	III
62	Sorel.....	III	III	III
59	Saint John.....	III	III	III
67	Welland.....	III	III	III
70	Vancouver (c).....	III	III	III
69	Calgary (d).....	III	III	III
63	Fort William & Port Arthur.....	III	III	III
58	Halifax.....	III	III	III
68	Winnipeg.....	III	III	III
60	Chicoutimi.....	IV	IV	III
65	Ottawa.....	III	III	III
68	Regina.....	IV	IV	III
69	Saskatoon.....	IV	IV	III
63	Hamilton.....	III	III	IV
66	St. Catharines.....	IV	IV	IV
70	Victoria.....	IV	III	IV
70	Trail.....	IV	IV	IV
69	Edmonton.....	IV	IV	IV
66	Sault Ste. Marie.....	III	III	IV
64	Kingston.....	IV	IV	IV
67	Sudbury.....	IV	IV	IV
65	Niagara Falls.....	IV	IV	IV
60	Montreal (e).....	IV	IV	IV
64	London.....	IV	IV	IV
66	Peterborough.....	IV	IV	IV
63	Brantford.....	IV	IV	IV
61	Sherbrooke.....	IV	IV	IV
67	Toronto (f).....	IV	IV	IV
64	Kitchener.....	IV	IV	IV

(a) Sydney includes: Glace Bay, Inverness, New Waterford, North Sydney, Sydney Mines.

(b) Quebec includes: Montmorency, Levis, Valcartier.

(c) Vancouver includes: North Vancouver, New Westminster.

(d) Calgary includes: Black Diamond.

(e) Montreal includes: Lachine, Longueuil, Pointe-aux-Trembles, St. Paul l'Ermite, Verdun, Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

(f) Toronto includes: New Toronto, Toronto Junction, Weston.

Area Studies

The following individual studies of thirty-eight selected local areas present aspects of the current situation which are not reflected in the statistical material.

Amherst

This area experienced a severe cut-back in employment after the war and, despite the formation of two new companies, employment now is greatly below the wartime peak, but remains about 50 per cent higher than the low level of 1939. Structural steel manufacturing and the leather goods industry now are providing the most stable source of employment, as employment in textiles (Maritime Pant), and railway rolling stock (Canada Car and Foundry Company Limited) has fluctuated greatly and in the case of the latter company has dwindled from some 2,200 workers to less than 100.

There are plenty of applicants available for woods operations. Agriculture now is in the off-season and there is no demand for labour.

Due to prevailing fine weather, construction work on industrial projects is progressing well. As a result, many construction workers are still employed, but orders for additional labour are non-existent with many skilled and unskilled workers available.

Halifax

Overall reported employment decreased from September 1945 to September 1946, the major part of the slump being due to decreased employment in transportation. The high employment in transportation in September 1945 was due to the nature of the times and was contraseasonal when compared with normal times. The usual labour trend in transportation shows the high in midwinter, and the low in the summer.

Shipbuilding activity is fairly good and despite a well-controlled decrease in manpower, still employs nearly five times as many men as at September 1, 1939. Textile firms are not operating at capacity because of material shortages, and, in some cases, because of the difficulty in securing suitable help.

Some 500 fishermen now are idle because negotiations have broken down between the union and operators, and in addition some 2,000 fish handlers whose union is now amalgamated with the fishermen's union may be affected.

About 2,000 unionized longshoremen have so far handled all port requirements.

New Glasgow--Pictou

The employment trend during the past year in this area has shown an almost constant decline. When the downtrend will stop is uncertain, as the iron and steel industry shows no sign of strength. A large surplus of applicants together with virtually no demand for labour has been the typical situation for many months.

All fish plants are operating full-time, with no shortage of help. The number of logging operations in this area will increase after the new year but no shortage of labour is anticipated. All coal mines are operating full-time.

Eastern Car Co. Limited has completed the order on hand and the majority of employees have been laid-off. Pictou Foundry Machine Co. has completed work on ship repairing and the majority of workers here will also be released, reducing the working force to some 45 men. Maritime Steel Foundries cannot obtain sufficient steel supplies and as a result activity is low. Trenton Steel Works Limited is the only large company on a firm footing at the present time. It is hoped that work will continue until spring.

Sydney

Overall reported employment rose slightly from August 1, 1945 to July 1, 1946. On July 13, however, the steel strike commenced, causing a shutdown in the Sydney Steel Plant and great hardship in all plants dependent on steel supplies from this company. The steel industry now employs a smaller staff than before the strike. Total employment in December is therefore slightly lower than in the summer of 1946. As at July 1, 1946, total reported employment was only 9 per cent higher than at the September 1, 1939 level, as compared to the 40 per cent employment gain for all of Canada for the same period.

Lay-offs have ceased from the Sydney Steel Plant and all departments are working steadily.

With the closing of the port of Sydney all forms of land transportation are taxed to the limit. However, labour demand is low and except for a demand for 100 coal miners job opportunities are light and sporadic. Veterans are being given preference on all available jobs but as these positions are generally for casual labour many veterans are reluctant to accept this employment.

Saint John

Although overall employment as at September 1946 is comparable to that of last year, a large increase in construction activity boosted employment in this sector of industry, while manpower engaged in manufacturing decreased. Consequently, because of the seasonal nature of the construction industry, many men were released in the late fall and unplaced applicants rose sharply.

Total employment is generally higher in the winter period due to the great importance which the transportation industry plays in this area's economy. The usual summer slump in transportation is keenly felt.

Transportation is active and there are more gangs of men out than at the wartime peak. Longshoremen are busy and it is difficult at times to obtain sufficient workers. The C.P.R. has absorbed many men for trucking staffs and train crews.

While there are many men unemployed, the scarcity of female workers became even more pronounced during the Christmas season. In normal times, demand for female help though heaviest in the domestic field, is substantial in all job classifications.

Chicoutimi

At present 5,000 men are engaged in woods operations in the Chicoutimi area. Labour turnover in this industry is high, however, and replacements are needed continually. Orders registered at the National Employment Office for bushmen now stand at 2,000.

Little activity is reported in the aluminium manufacturing industry. The few orders for labourers for the Aluminum Company of Canada plant at Arvida are being filled locally. This plant will re-open a number of its potrooms at the beginning of January, at which time a number of additional workers will be required.

Retail trade has been more active during the holiday season this year than in any other previous year. No difficulty was experienced in supplying the stores with temporary help for the Christmas rush.

There continues to be a heavy demand for house maids, cooks, waitresses, and bilingual stenographers, with suitable applicants practically non-obtainable.

Hull

The employment outlook is not favourable at the present time, with approximately 20 new claimants registering daily for unemployment insurance. Construction work at the new International Plywood Company is almost complete and as a result 45 labourers have been released. Seventy employees of the Canadian International Paper Mill at Gatineau Point have been laid-off due to the closing of the slasher mill there. Canada Packers Limited has commenced to lay-off the 60 temporary employees who were hired during the peak production period this fall.

The Rainbow Plastic Products Company, situated at Gatineau Point, will enlarge their plant shortly, and expect to increase their staff from 140 to 200 by March 1947.

In the construction field several new projects have been started by the city of Hull, but private construction has slowed down considerably during the past month.

Although there is an overall surplus of labour in the Hull area, a strong demand for loggers and heavy labourers persists.

Montreal

During the past month, labour demand dropped and the number of unplaced applicants rose correspondingly.

As the seasonal peak in the food processing industry now has passed, there has been a considerable cutting down of employment in local packing houses, canning factories, etc.

In the secondary iron and steel industry, material supplies now are beginning to flow more freely, and a marked production increase is expected early in 1947.

Cosmetic production is at a low level after the Christmas rush, and soap manufacturing is still being held up by the shortage of soda ash. On the other hand, drug and chemical manufacturers report increased production.

It is evident now that there will not be the usual seasonal lull in the construction industry this winter. Judging from the number of building permits issued up to December 1, the year 1946 will be a record building year for the city of Montreal. Lack of building materials, and the shortage of unskilled labour continue to be the main drawbacks to increased activity in this field.

Quebec

Unemployment in Quebec city continues to increase, although the overall employment picture shows a slight improvement over December 1945.

In the manufacturing field, lay-offs are taking place in a number of industries. A large slipper and glove factory recently shut down because of shortages of materials, releasing 500 workers from their jobs. A seasonal lull is evident in the clothing manufacturing industry and lay-offs have also taken place in the boot and shoe manufacturing industry.

Retail and wholesale trade reached a peak during the holiday season and the number of job seekers in the clerical and sales groups dropped temporarily. During December there was a marked decline in the number of unplaced veterans. Three hundred ex-servicemen were given temporary employment in the Post Office during the Christmas rush.

Tourist trade is very active, and hotels and restaurants are looking forward to a busy winter season. Labour demand in this line will be filled locally.

Shawinigan Falls

An analysis of labour trend during the past year reveals a well sustained employment level; the large war-created chemical industry has virtually retained the wartime peak employment and is on a stable footing. All principal manufacturing industries, with the exception of pulp and paper manufacturing, had to reduce operations during the past year principally because of material shortages. Manufacturing industries report many contracts on hand and expect a moderate production increase in 1947.

All logging contractors report that the annual cut is well ahead of last year but that 2,000 men are required in the St. Maurice region alone.

Shawinigan Chemicals Limited expect to put two or three extra furnaces into production in the new year. The Toronto branch of the Aluminum Company of Canada Limited had decided to transfer from Toronto to Shawinigan a certain division of their production; just what will be the labour requirements has not been stated.

Sherbrooke

Overall reported employment in industry in this area is at a good level. It is not only higher than a year ago but also shows a recent increase. Employment in textiles was high during the war and has remained so because of the present demand. Excluding textiles, which is by far the largest industry in this area, expansion in the secondary iron and steel, rubber products, foodstuffs, and trade and service industries is notable. Secondary iron and steel has retained much of the war expansion in employment, contrary to predictions.

The secondary iron and steel industry requires only skilled men at present but officials of local companies state that there should be a substantial revival of activities during January.

The new Bruce Silk Company is expected to start operations in March. This will add to the already marked shortage of suitable textile workers.

While there now is a surplus of unskilled construction labour, most of these men are being directed to other work, and all skilled men are still employed.

Sorel

Although employment in the area suffered from the almost total release of labour by Sorel Industries Limited after the war, employment has been remarkably well sustained by other industry, in particular, Marine Industries Limited. While overall reported employment has dropped approximately 45 per cent since August 1945, it is still about 190 per cent higher than the September 1939 level. A contributing factor to the favourable labour situation now existing in this area is the return to Montreal and other districts of hundreds of war workers after V-J day.

Marine Industries Limited now is on a stable footing and expects to increase employment as materials become more plentiful. Steel foundries expect to maintain employment for at least a year.

Construction activity has absorbed many of the men released from war work. Total job prospects on hand lead to the expectation of a manpower shortage in the spring.

Three Rivers

Labour conditions in this area are not favourable, with job opportunities on the downtrend and unemployment figures mounting daily.

During the two week period ending December 9, separations numbered 300 and placements during the same period totalled 75, the majority of the latter being in temporary jobs lasting ten days or less. A breakdown of the 300 separations notified reveals that 174 were in the pulp and paper industry, 61 in secondary iron and steel, 73 in construction, and the remaining 92 in other industries.

The only industry showing signs of expansion at the present time in textile manufacturing. The serious shortage of skilled weavers, however, is a definite drawback to increased employment in this field.

In the construction industry, there has been a marked slackening of activity lately, because of material shortages and adverse weather. At the present time four major building projects are in operation, but work on private houses and smaller projects has ceased for the time being.

Valleyfield

Currently, the demand-supply picture in Valleyfield is unbalanced. Women are in short supply, while there is a decided surplus of male workers. This is mainly because of the heavy concentration of textile manufacturing in which female help predominates.

Most textile firms in the area are in urgent need of skilled spinners, weavers, and sewing machine operators, while many are also short of unskilled factory workers.

The National Employment Office has suggested to local employers that they hire men instead of women wherever possible, thus helping to reduce the number of males unemployed. This plan is not workable in the textile industry, where many jobs are not suitable for men. However, the War Assets Corporation, which has a staff of over 1,000, is putting this policy into practice with a fair amount of success.

Construction now is at a standstill and practically all workers in this industry are unemployed at the present time. Many would accept work in other centres if it were available.

Brantford

In the secondary iron and steel industry, demand for skilled and semi-skilled labour holds strong but there has been a decided decline in orders for unskilled workers. With seasonal declines in agriculture and construction, many labourers have taken inside jobs for the winter months, thus relieving the shortage in this area.

Lack of materials is hindering production in the electrical goods industry, thus labour demand has declined. Employment levels in meat packing and other food processing industries are at a seasonal low.

Although outside construction work is almost at a standstill, demand for good finishing carpenters, plumbers, plasterers and electricians for inside work continues strong. Building materials are still in exceedingly short supply.

While the general employment outlook is bright, orders for workers, especially heavy labourers, are expected to remain fairly light for some weeks to come. Until more skilled and semi-skilled workers are available none of the larger industries will be able to absorb additional unskilled labour.

Fort William and Port Arthur

Overall employment is lower than a year ago. This is due principally to lessened activity in shipbuilding and other iron and steel manufacturing, while "non-manufacturing" industries have shown an increase in employment.

Lake navigation has closed down; with the general seasonal slump in other transportation, hundreds of men were released. However, most of these men are adapted to, and willing to accept heavy labour in the logging and mining industries for the winter months.

Port Arthur reports that the shortage of manpower which arose after the withdrawal of prisoner of war labour has been overcome, and overall demand for woodsmen in the entire area is confined to skilled pulp-cutters.

Another opening for the seasonally unemployed will soon be provided by the Port Arthur Shipbuilding Company which is commencing work on new contracts and expects to increase the staff up to a maximum of 500 men by March 1947.

Except for stoppages caused by inclement weather, construction work is extremely active and prospective construction jobs are numerous.

Hamilton

Industrial disputes during 1946 have seriously affected employment in the Hamilton labour market area, and no immediate relief is in sight. Projected expansion in secondary iron and steel manufacturing, electrical apparatus manufacturing and many other industries has been delayed because of the acute shortages of materials.

Numerous lay-offs took place in the manufacturing field during December. This is a normal seasonal occurrence, however, and conditions should improve early in 1947.

Construction is the one industry which has maintained a high level of employment throughout the fall and early winter. Although many projects have had to be postponed because of material shortages, building activity has been sufficient to create almost full employment in this industry.

At the present time over 3,000 men are registered as unemployed, the majority being either skilled and semi-skilled metalworkers or unskilled factory labourers. On the other hand, job openings for women outnumber applicants by approximately 4 to 3, with stenographers, service workers, skilled and semi-skilled textile workers, and factory help in short supply.

Kingston

December labour conditions show little change from those which prevailed in November, although unfilled vacancies have increased slightly. The movement into the area of workers applying for factory jobs was noticeable and may partly account for the present lack of demand for factory labour. The severe labour shortage in the leather tanning industry seems to have been overcome.

The refitting period for lake boats has begun and men who were laid-off from the yards during the summer and fall are being rehired. An easing in the supply of basic materials for heavy industry is indicated by the return from a four-day week to a full week at the Canadian Locomotive Company.

There is little unemployment in the construction industry in spite of lay-offs due both to the completion of projects and to cold stormy weather. Men who leave the employ of one company are quickly hired by another where work is still in progress.

Kitchener - Waterloo

Except for the cut-back caused by the recent rubber strike, overall employment in Kitchener has remained at a high level compared to August 1945. A great shortage of workers in every industry continues to dominate the employment field. Leather products, foodstuffs, furniture manufacturing, construction, trade, and services, have all expanded employment over the year.

The rubber industry is still rebuilding its staff after the recent shutdown and as a result male and female workers are required in large numbers. There is also a heavy demand for labour in the shoe and glove, furniture, transportation (auto mechanics), and construction industries.

The general situation shows that vacancies exceed applicants by a wide margin, and that employers are hiring directly in competition for labour. The importation of outside labour would greatly benefit industry in this area but to date, the lack of housing accommodation has obstructed any large-scale movement.

London

The seasonal slump in manufacturing activity during December was more pronounced than it has been for some years. Because of the current shortage of materials many industries laid-off workers temporarily and took advantage of the slack period to overhaul machinery and equipment. All indications point to an early improvement in the flow of materials, and starting next month there will probably be an upward trend in labour demand.

In the construction industry, prolonged mild weather has contributed much to the progress of numerous building projects. A noticeable easing of the housing shortage is expected within the next few months.

In the male labour field, job vacancies showed a substantial drop during December, mainly because of seasonal conditions. A large percentage of the male unplaced applicants are elderly or physically unfit for other than light employment.

The demand for female workers continues strong. Experienced stenographers, power sewing machine operators, shoe workers, and beginners for textile mills are practically unobtainable.

Niagara Falls

At the close of 1946, all manufacturing industries in the Niagara Falls area were operating at a high level of production. Indications point to a continual improvement of employment conditions throughout the winter months, providing that power shortages do not interfere with production.

One of the larger abrasive plants in the district has started full-scale operations after working on a part-time basis for several weeks because of the recent power shortage.

There has been lately a general slackening in construction activity because of adverse weather and the lack of building materials. Several construction projects now underway will be completed in the spring, when materials are expected to be more plentiful.

The volume of wholesale and retail trade during the current holiday season was greater than it has been for a number of years. Approximately 130 male and female applicants were given temporary jobs during November and December.

Currently, the ratio of male applicants to jobs available is 4 to 1. Many of the male unemployed are in the unskilled labour class.

Oshawa

Between Christmas and New Year's several of the larger manufacturing companies cut down their staffs temporarily in order to build up a reserve of material supplies. General Motors laid-off 2,500 men; Duplate of Canada, 300; Whitby Malleable Iron, 120; and Skinner Company, 50. Material shortages are critical at the present time, particularly in the automotive industry.

Production in the leather processing industry is almost at a standstill because of the scarcity of hides. The Robson Leather Company has notified its employees that lack of materials will force the plant to close down on January 9.

In the construction industry, work on most projects has ceased and will not be resumed until the spring. Many skilled artisans and labourers have been laid-off, and demand for all types of construction workers is very low.

Unplaced applicants, both male and female, by far outnumber jobs available. There is a heavy concentration of unemployed in the unskilled labour class.

Ottawa

During December there were few placements made in the manufacturing field, where labour demand is at a seasonal low. Most retail stores have their full quota of extra help for the holiday season, thus hiring in this field is slack. Requests for heavy labour, with the exception of bush workers, also showed a marked decline. However, heavy snowfalls at the end of December should bring about a change in this situation, as the city will require a large number of men for street cleaning work.

For the first time since the opening of the National Employment office, demand for farm workers is almost negligible. This is the result of the recent placement of 147 Polish veterans with local farmers. According to all reports, the majority of these veterans have proved highly satisfactory.

In the female labour field, there were 1,448 unplaced applicants listed in the clerical and professional group at December 21. Of these 1,255 or 87 per cent, are claimants for unemployment insurance.

Peterborough

Overall reported employment now is about 14 per cent higher than in August 1945, and about 92 per cent higher than in September 1939. Every industry, with the possible exception of foodstuffs, now employs more men than a year ago. The electrical industry, by far the largest in this area, now engages nearly two and a half times as many workers as in September 1939 and has increased employment by about 10 per cent since August 1945 alone.

At this date the usual tapering off of labour needs for the winter is clearly evident and unplaced applicants are increasing. Most companies have a full complement of men and will not be hiring additional help until materials become more plentiful, which will likely be next spring.

Some future labour requirements will emerge with the establishment of new plants. Canadian Nashua Paper Company Limited are erecting a new plant and at the same time will allow for future expansion. A new plastic manufacturing plant called Tilco Limited will employ approximately 100 persons, and is expected to begin operations in 1947.

While a number of large scale projects are underway, there is no demand for construction workers and the usual seasonal lay-offs have taken place.

St. Catharines

Several factors influenced employment conditions in the St. Catharines area during the month of December.

Cold weather curtailed many outside operations, chiefly in construction and navigation. Power shortages caused employment reductions in a number of manufacturing plants, and delayed expansion programs in others. Frequent interruptions in the flow of materials also have curtailed production in numerous industries, particularly in secondary iron and steel manufacturing.

The result has been a sizable reduction in unfilled vacancies, and an increase in male applicants and in claimants for unemployment insurance benefits.

In the female labour field, vacancies are increasing and it is becoming more difficult to find applicants suitable for, and willing to accept, the jobs offering.

Sault Ste. Marie

Overall employment compared with a year ago has been well maintained with a slight reduction in iron and steel employment. The area now has fully recovered from the effects of the recent strike involving the Algoma Steel Corporation. All former employees of the company have been rehired and some new men have been taken on.

Many men from the prairie provinces are obtaining work with the Abitibi Power and Paper Company as there are very few skilled workers available locally. Employment in pulp and paper manufacturing has increased considerably since a year ago.

Algoma Ore Properties have placed a standing order for 6 men per week. The Michipicoten Iron Mines Limited are closed down because of the recent cave-in and future operations are uncertain at present.

Some construction jobs are terminating and releasing carpenters and labourers, but to date the number of unplaced construction workers is not large. Nearly all major building projects are progressing satisfactorily.

In view of the small number of unplaced applicants and the fact that unfilled vacancies, exclusive of the heavy logging demand, nearly equal unplaced applicants, the employment situation is very satisfactory.

Sudbury

The end of the cutting season is approaching and the winter haul will soon begin in both logging and pulpwood camps. Currently, heavy labour turnover is holding back operations in all phases of the logging industry.

The employment level in the base metal mines continue to rise, and all indications point to the continued expansion of the labour force until the spring of 1947.

Job openings for male workers now top 1,500, while unplaced applicants number approximately 800. The demand-supply picture is not balanced. Sixty-eight per cent of the total job openings are for loggers and 28 per cent for miners and heavy labourers, while the majority of applicants are either skilled tradesmen (carpenters, machinists etc.) or light factory labourers.

There are few jobs offering for women, except in the service occupations. Female job seekers are for the most part clerical and sales workers.

Toronto

Currently there is a general lull in heavy industry. This slack period is mainly the result of cumulative shortages of materials but may also be attributed to seasonal employment cutbacks.

In the light manufacturing field, many firms are closing down temporarily for stock-taking and machinery repairs. Lay-offs have been particularly heavy in clothing, millinery, and leather goods manufacturing. Staff reductions in these industries are only temporary, however, and conditions should improve by the middle of February.

Lake shipping in the Toronto area came to a close on December 14. With the exception of men being hired for repair work on the ships in drydock there will be no further placement activity until late February or early March. In all other phases of the transportation industry - railway, trucking and transport - there has been a general slackening off of activity in recent weeks.

There has been very little change in the employment picture in the service industry. Labour turnover continues to be high and all types of workers are in short supply. However, the recent lifting of wage controls may help to stabilize employment here.

Welland

Employment conditions have remained fairly stable during the past month, although unplaced applicants have increased slightly and job openings are less numerous than they were a month ago.

Employment in the chemical and rubber manufacturing industries remains unchanged with labour demand limited to replacements needed to take care of normal labour turnover.

Expansion in secondary iron and steel is taking place gradually as materials become more plentiful. The present backlog of orders will guarantee a full production schedule until late spring at least.

Numerous lay-offs are occurring in the construction industry, as is customary at this time of year. Approximately 40 maintenance men have been released by the Michigan Central Railway with the end of seasonal work.

Windsor

Unemployment in the Windsor labour market area continues to increase. The number of job vacancies listed is shrinking rapidly and additional lay-offs are being reported weekly. It is expected that employment cut-backs will continue into January, with the largest lay-off coming from the Ford Motor Company.

Industry in Windsor attracts more people than there are jobs, even in normal times. Now, with employment conditions so unsatisfactory, this immigration of job seekers from other cities serves to make the burden of unemployment extremely heavy.

In general, the current reduction in industrial activity may be attributed to shortages of material, particularly of steel. The flow of materials is not yet back to normal, although it now is over two months since the majority of strikes in basic industries were settled.

Unemployment is most serious among males, with fewer than 100 jobs being offered for almost 6,000 applicants. Most numerous among the unemployed are skilled and semi-skilled metalworkers and unskilled workers.

Winnipeg

The employment trend of the past year shows a moderate gain in total employment. Employment in the foodstuffs, clothing, principal iron and steel, and electric power industries has virtually retained its wartime status in the employment field; in addition it is approximately 50 per cent higher than in September 1939.

The usual seasonal slump in many of the primary industries now is evident. Agricultural requirements are very small and general lay-offs are taking place in the foodstuffs industry because of a decreased run of livestock. Logging companies require experienced cutters and mines require skilled underground men, who are in very short supply. Similarly skilled men are needed in the sheet metal trade. Male stenographers are still required and there is a substantial demand for qualified professional men.

Regina

Overall reported employment in all industry has remained stable over the year, with a slump occurring in manufacturing and an increase in non-manufacturing, thus keeping employment at the same level. The increase in non-manufacturing employment is important, as approximately 75 per cent of all labour in the area is employed outside the manufacturing field.

The usual seasonal lull in labour demand now is being felt as agricultural requirements are low and all outside construction work has terminated. Inside construction work is continuing and there is still a demand for first class finishing carpenters. Packing plants have reduced their staffs to normal for this time of year. Concrete products companies and other small concerns have reduced staffs to winter requirements.

Registrations for employment are fairly heavy as many men are coming to the city looking for winter work, but placements are at a good level considering local employment conditions at this season.

Saskatoon

Due to nature of industry in this area (mostly agriculture, trade and service, and primary processing), seasonal trends in employment are marked. At this time of year agricultural labour requirements are small as compared to the summer and fall periods, construction firms are employing skeleton staffs, and meat packing plants are reducing staffs. However, over the year general employment has risen.

Dairy and poultry products plants are operating at the capacity set by the flow of produce. Flour mills are well staffed and a number of grain shovellers have been hired. Iron and steel plants are also well staffed for the present but early in the new year expect that material supplies will be sufficient to enable them to hire more men.

Demand in the service and retail trades is light but male and female stenographers can obtain positions.

Many veterans who worked on farms during the summer now are applying for out-of-work allowances but many others have accepted work in logging and mining operations.

Calgary

While all industries during the preceding twelve months show a slight gain in employment the increase is due to increased activity in non-manufacturing. On the other hand, employment in the principal iron and steel manufacturing, and in railway rolling stock shows a decided slump.

The need for temporary help for the Christmas season was much smaller than had been expected and a general decrease in orders for skilled and unskilled labour, both male and female, is also apparent. With the exception of a scarcity of experienced moulders, there is little demand for workers in manufacturing. Shipments of cattle and hogs to local packing plants continue at a good pace for this period of the year; to date no lay-offs have been necessary. Some falling off in deliveries is expected early in the new year, but lay-offs will be light.

An all-time record has been set in the building of private dwellings in the past year with a total of 1,496. Extreme cold weather has cut down employment in construction.

Edmonton

Edmonton's importance as a trade and service, and transportation centre for a large area has increased steadily since 1939, but these industries, together with the important agricultural industry, are particularly sensitive to seasonal influences. The present high employment in the logging and foodstuffs industries does not compensate for the decrease in agricultural employment. Consequently, while employment was high during the summer months, unplaced applicants now are more numerous.

Agricultural labour requirements are at a minimum but some 1,500 men, mostly farm workers, have been placed in logging operations, which, for the time being, are well staffed.

A seasonal drop in cattle and hog receipts has caused a lay-off of some 440 men. Milk and cream receipts are down compared to the same period last year and little help is required. Flour mills are still operating on a three-shift basis.

Some 200 skilled carpenters now are on the live files in Edmonton. Construction of a five million dollar hydro-electric plant on the Snare River to provide power for the Yellowknife mining area is underway and additional labour will be required in the spring.

Trail

The outstanding demand for workers during the summer months has ceased and employment requirements in this area are small. Many applicants from the prairies were arriving until recently, seeking work here despite notices sent out that all Consolidated Mining and Smelting requirements were filled for the winter.

Construction companies are laying-off general labour partly because of material shortages and partly because of the severe cold weather. Logging and sawmill companies also reduced staffs nearly six weeks earlier than usual because of the weather conditions.

There is very little demand for female workers with the exception of a few openings for fully experienced single stenographers. Many women were seeking work as clerks during the Christmas season but most of these jobs were filled by students.

The overall employment situation is fairly good. Hundreds of workers were engaged up to this date but employment opportunities now are scarce and will likely remain so until spring.

Vancouver

A review of the past twelve months employment operations indicates that good progress has been made. Thousands of veterans, local and otherwise, have been placed, and in addition, thousands of displaced war workers have been re-located. Placements of incoming workers from other areas have also been good. All these employment operations took place despite the inroads made into the continuity of employment by the many industrial disputes with which the mid-year was plagued. Unplaced applicants approximately equal the number in the same period last year but are likely to increase until February or March.

The logging industry is expected to resume full-scale operations after the new year but up to the time of the general Christmas shut-down, most labour requirements had been filled both in sawmills and lumber camps, with the exception of the demand for highly skilled workers. The lack of key men in the mining industry is preventing the hiring of many unskilled workers now that the strike has been settled.

Vacancies in manufacturing are generally light but employment in shipbuilding is gradually increasing as materials become available.

Victoria

The decline in employment in shipbuilding has adversely affected overall employment in this area during the past year. Of the 32 per cent decrease in overall reported employment which occurred in the year following the end of the war almost 95 per cent of this drop can be attributed to the decline in shipbuilding activity alone. Although employment in non-manufacturing, particularly trade, expanded since last year, the degree of expansion was not sufficient to offset the slump which occurred in shipbuilding.

Highly seasonal industries support most of the employment in this area. Therefore, winter is the low period for all industries except logging.

Shipbuilding activities remain static and both major yards are reducing staffs slightly. However, contracts on hand guarantee increased activity in 1947.

The combination of material shortages and inclement weather has lessened all demand for construction workers but despite this there are very few skilled tradesmen unemployed. Housing accommodation is virtually unobtainable.

Item	Canada			Amherst			Halifax		
	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)	53	49	65	109	82	179	66	67	35
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	111,641	134,818	130,376	12	35	44	1,024	1,232	3,114
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	155,553	165,536	-	27	137	-	1,717	2,370
3. Jobs available during month	-	290,371	295,912	-	62	181	-	2,949	5,484
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	71,961	113,390	-	31	127	-	894	1,542
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	103,559	80,181	-	130	39	-	983	1,535
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	90,983	111,641	96,782	22	12	28	749	1,024	1,484
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	146,625	134,126	153,162	382	300	473	2,955	2,750	1,236
% female	21.6	23.6	23.3	21.7	22.7	28.8	13.5	14.5	18.1
% veterans	32.8	33.4	30.4	50.5	48.0	24.1	44.8	42.3	54.6
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	21.5	20.8	13.6	41.4	40.0	14.0	27.9	26.3	11.2
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month ..	122,806	133,729	129,990	367	274	544	2,833	2,605	781
% under 20 years	11.0	11.8	-	6.4	5.8	-	17.6	16.7	-
% 20 - 45 "	60.2	60.0	-	71.4	68.6	-	62.7	62.7	-
% 45 - 60 "	18.0	17.7	-	17.2	17.9	-	14.2	14.8	-
% over 60 "	10.8	10.5	-	5.0	7.7	-	5.5	5.8	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	162,422	241,984	-	222	472	-	2,435	3,085
3. Total workers available in month	-	296,548	395,146	-	522	945	-	5,185	4,321
% referred	-	38.9	37.6	-	13.2	15.9	-	29.8	57.2
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	158,302	146,625	180,356	504	382	731	2,894	2,955	1,689
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month ...	2,980	2,935	2,771	-	4,600	4,100	-	43,800	47,800
2. Per Capita weekly earnings " " "	-	33.42	32.05	-	-	-	-	29.84	29.36
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	23,787	18,159	-	-	3	-	268	206

Note: --Figures for Canada re wage and salary workers are in thousands.

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	New Glasgow and Pictou			Sydney			Saint John		
	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unemployed applicants per 1000 employed).....	431	402	196	242	218	98	88	97	62
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	28	58	158	229	252	763	556	560	818
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	794	816	-	704	1,423	-	990	1,692
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	852	974	-	956	2,186	-	1,550	2,510
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	792	756	-	639	925	-	633	1,358
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	137	18	-	183	63	-	662	446
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	58	28	139	187	229	699	642	556	648
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	2,435	2,486	1,447	4,071	3,694	1,646	2,509	2,440	1,422
% female.....	6.8	6.6	18.7	10.3	12.3	23.7	8.4	8.5	19.3
% veterans.....	50.4	48.2	11.4	52.9	55.9	40.5	48.3	48.1	44.0
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	46.7	44.1	5.6	46.6	49.9	19.4	37.3	35.8	8.4
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	2,411	2,471	1,371	4,035	3,657	1,556	2,422	2,363	1,118
% under 20 years.....	5.5	4.7	-	14.4	10.5	-	15.1	14.0	-
% 20 - 45 ".....	72.6	70.5	-	72.5	77.0	-	65.0	63.3	-
% 45 - 60 ".....	13.7	15.9	-	8.3	8.6	-	14.0	15.9	-
% over 60 ".....	8.2	8.9	-	4.8	3.9	-	5.9	6.8	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	1,167	1,213	-	1,692	1,802	-	1,657	2,593
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	3,653	2,660	-	5,386	3,448	-	4,097	4,015
% referred.....	-	38.7	31.7	-	16.2	31.3	-	24.3	42.7
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	2,616	2,435	1,675	4,524	4,071	1,938	2,270	2,509	1,637
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	-	6,100	8,600	-	18,700	19,700	-	25,800	26,300
2. Per capita weekly earnings " ".....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29.63	28.36
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	12	42	-	106	64	-	21	89

x Figures subject to revision

Item	Chicoutimi			Hull			Montreal		
	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	62	50	356	132	118	58	28	24	71
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	147	2,104	4,349	437	425	818	18,442	19,909	17,974
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	1,309	1,017	-	322	737	-	13,697	13,503
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	3,413	5,366	-	747	1,555	-	33,606	31,477
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	162	596	-	126	606	-	6,405	4,844
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	535	878	-	454	358	-	16,282	17,636
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	716	1,147	3,611	366	437	608	14,258	18,442	13,121
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	344	327	1,808	1,244	1,032	726	12,666	12,935	28,257
% female.....	45.6	46.2	14.1	28.5	26.9	12.0	16.2	16.3	16.5
% veterans.....	6.1	9.0	6.4	31.7	35.6	20.0	19.4	22.9	19.4
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	4.4	5.6	2.7	28.9	32.3	6.1	10.4	12.6	6.9
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month.....	320	285	1,492	1,153	941	488	11,561	11,679	27,024
% under 20 years.....	16.2	16.8	-	13.5	14.0	-	7.3	7.3	-
% 20 - 45 "	67.8	63.5	-	65.0	67.3	-	52.0	50.9	-
% 45 - 60 "	9.1	12.3	-	14.0	10.9	-	18.8	19.0	-
% over 60 "	6.9	7.4	-	7.5	7.8	-	21.9	22.8	-
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	420	2,098	-	655	1,217	-	18,540	37,861
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	747	3,906	-	1,687	1,943	-	31,475	66,118
% referred.....	-	30.3	22.8	-	14.3	35.1	-	38.4	15.5
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	420	344	2,175	1,386	1,244	702	13,532	12,666	32,832
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month.....	-	6,800	6,100	-	10,500	12,100	-	484,700	461,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33.31	32.26
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	12	10	-	52	15	-	6,392	2,192

x Figures subject to revision

Item	Quebec			Shawinigan Falls			Sherbrooke		
	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)	142	124	194	100	89	127	18	17	41
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	2,056	1,897	2,626	59	185	21	184	326	416
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	2,521	3,247	-	299	287	-	363	731
3. Jobs available during month	-	4,418	5,873	-	484	308	-	689	1,147
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	946	1,595	-	249	192	-	247	556
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	1,698	2,479	-	344	440	-	680	459
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	1,495	2,056	1,827	83	59	105	180	184	372
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	8,465	7,733	10,157	907	881	1,048	346	259	621
% female	36.2	39.8	40.8	36.2	42.7	21.5	18.2	21.6	15.0
% veterans	19.2	19.6	9.7	10.9	11.5	6.0	24.3	18.5	20.8
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	14.2	13.6	5.9	10.1	9.5	5.0	14.2	11.2	18.2
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month	8,320	7,570	5,547	892	875	1,012	317	219	539
% under 20 years	14.5	14.9	-	13.0	10.3	-	25.5	15.5	-
% 20 - 45 "	70.7	71.4	-	62.7	70.7	-	55.2	57.1	-
% 45 - 60 "	10.9	10.1	-	11.5	9.7	-	11.7	16.0	-
% over 60 "	3.9	3.6	-	12.8	9.3	-	7.6	11.4	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	4,956	9,035	-	664	603	-	571	1,305
3. Total workers available in month	-	12,689	19,192	-	1,545	1,651	-	830	1,926
% referred	-	15.1	12.0	-	20.6	15.7	-	54.9	37.9
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	9,456	8,465	13,085	1,018	907	1,355	356	346	762
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month ..	-	68,100	67,500	-	10,200	10,700	-	19,900	18,600
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " "	-	28.69	30.75	-	-	-	-	27.62	26.29
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	248	1,102	-	91	27	-	140	63

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Sorel			Three Rivers			Valleyfield		
	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed)	94	73	364	105	97	78	106	107	120
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month	93	99	119	197	169	448	241	357	765
2. Vacs. notified during month	-	454	390	-	509	1,103	-	693	591
3. Jobs available during month	-	553	509	-	678	1,551	-	1,050	1,356
4. Jobs filled by referral	-	121	336	-	164	669	-	352	496
5. Jobs filled without referral	-	310	33	-	768	516	-	417	148
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month	76	93	83	220	197	494	351	241	381
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month	593	507	1,566	3,319	2,927	2,435	680	646	694
% female	14.8	20.3	9.8	20.3	21.7	36.3	25.1	30.8	11.1
% veterans	6.7	9.7	0.0	14.0	14.9	8.7	10.9	9.3	8.6
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more	5.9	6.9	0.0	10.8	11.7	3.8	7.4	5.3	2.3
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month ..	580	497	1,606	3,242	2,873	2,397	601	546	556
% under 20 years	14.2	12.1	-	31.5	20.4	-	11.5	16.3	-
% 20 - 45 "	62.9	65.0	-	53.8	64.9	-	64.4	62.3	-
% 45 - 60 "	14.8	13.5	-	10.8	11.7	-	15.6	14.5	-
% over 60 "	8.1	9.4	-	3.9	3.0	-	8.5	6.9	-
2. Applicants registered during month	-	605	902	-	1,225	1,671	-	778	908
3. Total workers available in month	-	1,112	2,468	-	4,152	4,106	-	1,424	1,602
% referred	-	19.7	14.6	-	9.5	18.9	-	30.7	38.4
4. Unplaced apps., end of month	764	593	2,001	3,611	3,319	2,625	673	680	740
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month ..	-	8,200	5,500	-	34,300	33,500	-	6,300	6,200
2. Per capita weekly earnings " " " " " "	-	-	-	-	31.87	29.08	-	-	-
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's)	-	-	2	-	23	302	-	20	17

x Figures subject to revision.

Item	Brantford			Ft. William & Pt. Arthur			Hamilton		
	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945	Dec. 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945	Dec. x 1946	Nov. 1946	Nov. 1945
Ratio of unemployment, end of month, (no. of unplaced applicants per 1000 employed).....	19	17	34	71	75	135	49	60	49
Jobs:									
1. Unfilled vacs., first of month.....	426	438	1,026	3,505	7,138	7,002	1,653	1,607	2,344
2. Vacs. notified during month.....	-	907	1,134	-	8,651	3,459	-	3,374	2,999
3. Jobs available during month.....	-	1,345	2,160	-	15,789	10,461	-	4,981	5,343
4. Jobs filled by referral.....	-	332	1,044	-	2,432	2,672	-	1,859	1,691
5. Jobs filled without referral.....	-	650	164	-	3,522	1,790	-	2,245	3,067
6. Unfilled vacs., end of month.....	331	426	565	3,007	3,505	2,141	1,568	1,653	1,715
Workers:									
1. A. Unplaced apps., first of month.....	289	335	565	1,774	1,678	2,544	4,474	5,531	3,913
% female.....	38.8	35.8	53.6	35.7	38.7	44.4	18.8	21.0	18.8
% veterans.....	15.9	20.3	14.7	24.9	20.4	17.6	32.8	33.9	38.0
% vets. unplaced 15 days or more.....	8.3	14.0	2.8	12.2	10.4	4.2	18.2	19.2	20.7
B. Unreferred applicants, first of month...	266	316	363	1,538	1,487	2,188	4,193	5,258	3,765
% under 20 years.....	9.4	12.6	=	10.8	9.2	=	9.6	11.9	=
% 20 - 45 "	48.5	47.5	=	61.8	65.2	=	61.2	57.8	=
% 45 - 60 "	19.9	20.3	=	15.7	13.4	=	16.6	21.7	=
% over 60 "	22.2	19.6	=	11.7	12.2	=	12.6	8.6	=
2. Applicants registered during month.....	-	547	1,353	=	2,316	3,270	=	4,023	6,473
3. Total workers available in month.....	-	882	1,918	=	3,994	5,814	=	9,554	10,386
% referred.....	-	55.8	71.9	=	45.2	43.1	=	43.8	32.0
4. Unplaced apps., end of month.....	308	289	520	1,692	1,774	3,175	3,649	4,474	3,998
Employment:									
1. Wage and salary workers, first of month....	-	16,600	15,300	-	23,700	23,600	-	74,500	81,900
2. Per capita weekly earnings " "	-	=	=	-	35.68	35.21	-	32.90	32.42
Construction:									
Value of building permits (000's).....	-	117	123	-	576	95	-	643	606

x Figures subject to revision

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